

PINK

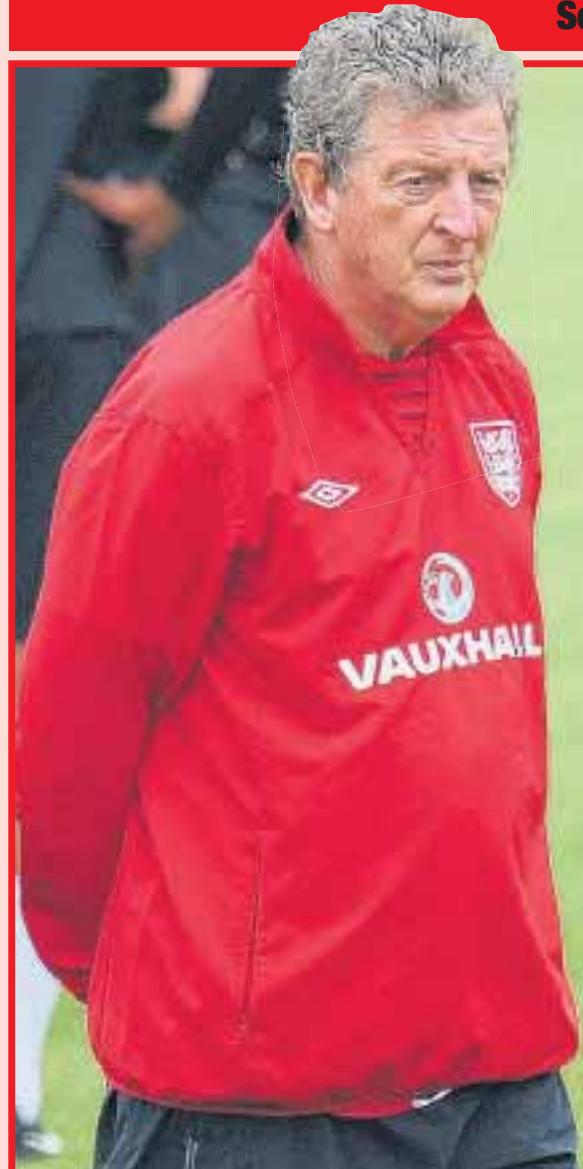
Supporting LOCAL sport

55p



CRICKET: International call 'on the cards' for Glenn

See page 33



ENGLAND FAILURES

World Cup winner delivers damning verdict on Hodgson's 2012 campaign

WORLD Cup winner Terry Paine has urged England boss Roy Hodgson to give youth a chance and abandon his "relic" formation in order for the country to progress.

Legendary former Saints winger Paine, part of the England squad in 1966, said he was disappointed Hodgson, pictured, employed a 4-4-2, defensive approach and felt that made the nation's exit from the tournament inevitable.

As well as urging an overhaul of British coaching, Paine, writing in his exclusive weekly column in *The Pink*, also called for a change of mentality.

He said: "I have to disagree with Roy Hodgson's statement that there are reasons to be optimistic about England's future.

"I said before the Euros began that

England should forget the prospect of winning the tournament and concentrate instead on preparing for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

"The results in this tournament flattered England, and my biggest disappointment was not seeing enough of the younger elements in the squad.

"The tried and trusted senior players have had enough chances and they have failed miserably."

He added: "If there is to be any progress on the international stage then a complete overhaul of the coaching structure is needed – and that could take years.

"Hodgson must reflect on his starting formations and realise that, while 4-4-2 may be okay at West Brom, it is a relic of yesterday on the international scene."

● **Read Terry Paine's EXCLUSIVE column: Page 5**

FOOTBALL



Focus on Premier managers
See pages 6-9

NON-LEAGUE



SIX pages of non-league news
See pages 12-16



YOUTH FOOTY
Hedge End 6-a-side pic special
See pages 26-27



EFC OPEN DAY
Family Fun Day
at the Silverlake Stadium
14th July 2012.
10am - 2pm
FREE ENTRY

- Bouncy Castles
- Madagascar Assault Course
- Stilt Walkers
- Space Slide
- Bungee Run
- Prize Grabber
- Gladiator Joust
- Jugglers
- Face Painting
- Live Music
- Food Stalls
- Fire Eaters

And much more!!



Saints Spotlight

PREMIER LEAGUE CLOSE SEASON INS AND OUTS

Arsenal

In: Lukas Podolski (Cologne) £10m, Olivier Giroud (Montpellier) £12m
Out: Jeffrey Monakana (Preston) Free, Ben Glasgow (Stoke) Free, Rhys Murphy (Telstar) Free, Oguzhan Ozyakup (Besiktas) £350k, Manuel Almunia (Released), Tom Cruise (Arsenal) Free

Aston Villa

In: Carlos Cuellar, Emile Heskey, Brad Guzan (all released)

Chelsea

In: Marko Marin (Werder Bremen) £6.5m
Out: Eden Hazard (Lille) £32m
Out: Jacob Mellis (Barnsley) Free, Didier Drogba (Shanghai Shenhua) Free, Jose Bosingwa, Salomon Kalou (both released)

Everton

In: Adam Forshaw (Brentford) Free, James Wallace (Tranmere) Undisclosed, Aristote Nsiala (Accrington) Free, Connor Roberts (Fulham) Free, Marcus Hahnemann, James McFadden (both released)



EDEN HAZARD

Fulham

In: George Williams (MK Dons) Undisclosed, Connor Roberts (Everton) Free, Mladen Petric (Hamburg) Free
Out: Andrew Johnson (QPR) Free, Danny Murphy (Blackburn) Free, Zdenek Grygera, Pavel Pogrebnyak, Bjorn Helge Riise (all released)

Liverpool

In: David Amoo (Preston) – Free, Fabio Aurelio (Gremio) – Free, Dirk Kuyt (Fenerbahce) £1m
Out: Owen Hargreaves, Stuart Taylor (both released)

Manchester City

In: Owen Hargreaves, Stuart Taylor (both released)

Manchester United

In: Nick Powell (Crewe) £4m, Shinji Kagawa (Borussia Dortmund) £12m
Out: Ritchie De Laet (Leicester) – Undisclosed, Matty James (Leicester) – Undisclosed, Tomasz Kuszczak (Brighton) – Free, Michael Owen (released)

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SIX years on, Bartosz Bialkowski still can't help but think back to that fateful FA Cup tie at Newcastle.

It was February 2006 when George Burley's Championship side travelled to St James' Park for a televised fifth round clash against their Premier League opponents.

In goal was a fresh-faced 18-year-old Bialkowski.

The Polish keeper had only arrived at St Mary's just over a month beforehand, signed for the paltry sum of £50,000 from Gornik Zabrze.

His accomplished performances in those first few weeks with Saints already had supporters believing the club had secured an absolute bargain.

And a string of marvellous saves in the 1-0 defeat against Newcastle was generating further excitement surrounding the potential of this previously unknown teenage stopper.

But then, in the 79th minute, something happened that Bialkowski believes seismically altered the path of his career.

On the face of it, it was an innocuous moment.

Bialkowski slightly misjudged a cross, spilled the ball and landed – awkwardly.

Minutes later, his left knee was in a brace and he was on a stretcher, his hands covering his tortured, blood-drained, face.

Bialkowski had torn his cruciate ligaments and would not play again for more than a year.

"Those first two months were incredible, until that game against Newcastle where I injured my knee," he explains.

"I caught a ball, then dropped it, and I think I landed on my knee and twisted it.

"I heard it crack, and I couldn't straighten my leg properly. Straight away it was just so painful."

With Bialkowski sidelined for so long, Burley was forced back into the transfer market.

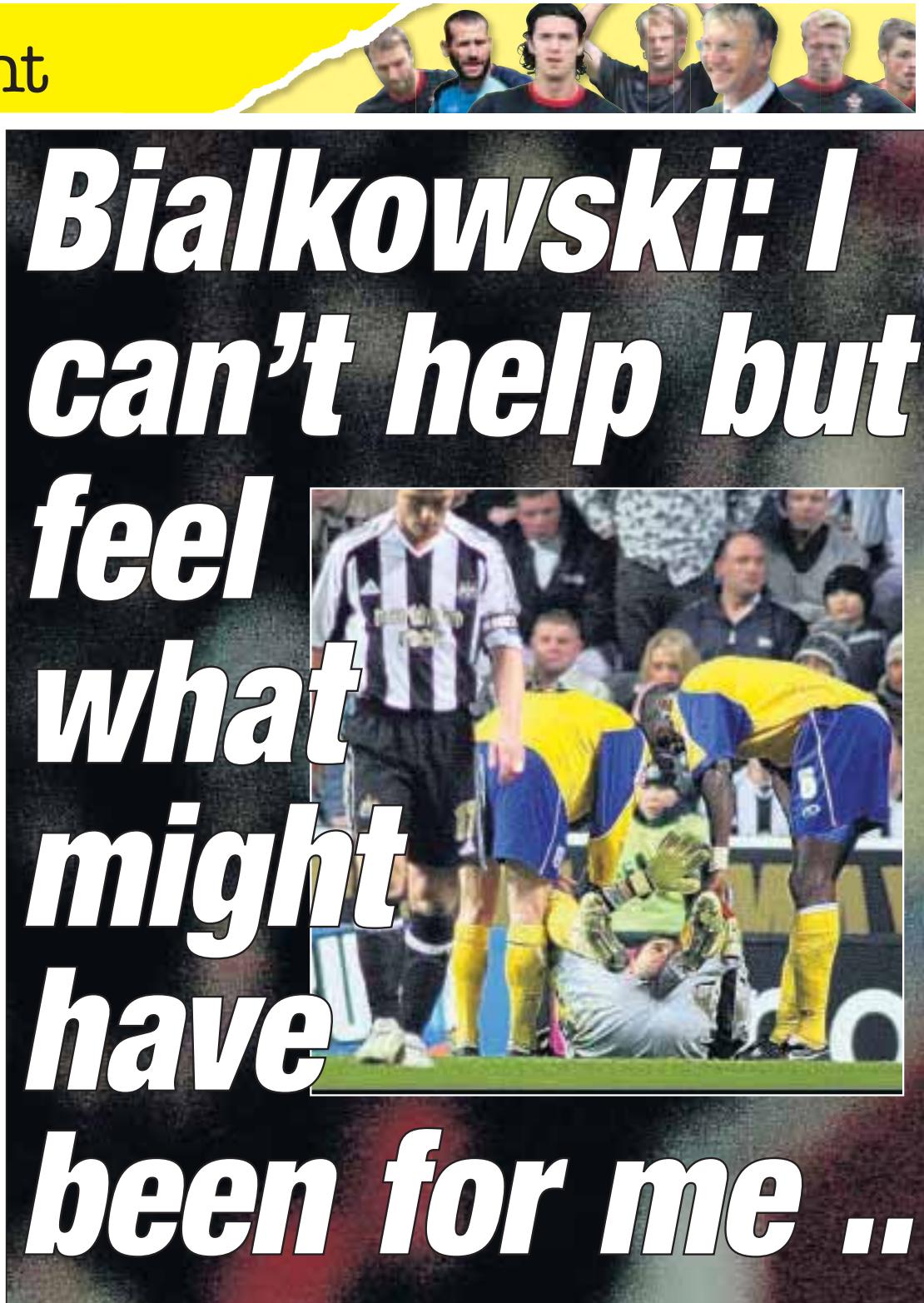
He signed Kelvin Davis that summer and the rest, as they say, is history.

Davis went on to establish himself as the club's number one, while Bialkowski never fully recaptured his form and was condemned to spending most of his time on the bench and in the reserves.

By the time he was released this summer, he had totalled just 42 appearances for the first-team.

It is, therefore, little surprise that he still wonders what would have happened had the injury against Newcastle never occurred.

"It would be completely different," he insists.



Gordon Simpson

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SPORTS REPORTER

"If I was fit and playing every week then Southampton might not sign Kelvin.

"But they signed him and he's a hero now. It was good for Southampton, but not so good for me."

Yet, while life at St Mary's did not work out how Bialkowski had hoped, he has nothing but positive things to say about the club.

He still remembers the

moment he arrived at Saints and his debut in a 0-0 home draw with Crystal Palace.

"It was amazing for me, because I was only 18 when I came to England," recalls Bialkowski, who has always been a likeable and charming character.

"It was always my dream to play there. When I looked at the stadium, the facilities, the training ground

and everything it was amazing for me.

"I remember George Burley coming to me two hours before the Crystal Palace game and saying I was going to start.

"I was thinking 'oh wow, ok.'

"The atmosphere was amazing, the fans were absolutely brilliant to me."

Bialkowski did force his way back into the team late in the 2006/07 season, helping them end the campaign on a scintillating run that booked a place in the

Championship play-offs.

But, after playing in the first leg of the dramatic semi-final against Derby, he was dropped in favour of Davis for the second leg at Pride Park.

"I wasn't injured. It was a decision from George Burley," reveals Bialkowski.

"He did tell me why. He said he was struggling with defenders, so he had to put Martin Cranie in front of the goalkeeper, so he said he needed some experience in goal."

TERRY PAINES EXCLUSIVE COLUMN - TURN TO PAGE 5

Saints Spotlight

I want to play at the highest level I can, and I believe be a Premier League keeper

AGONY: Bart Bialkowski goes down injured in the FA Cup at Newcastle, facing page, and is stretchered off, below.

McManaman's tame shot squirming through his legs to put Blackpool 2-1 up was the low point of a nightmarish day in goal for Bialkowski. Watching his face drop, as he turned to see the ball inch over the line, was a heartbreak moment.

"I had my chance and I really wanted to do well," he continues. "But it didn't work out for me for whatever reason - I still don't know."

"But that's the game and it happens. I was down afterwards, but everyone from the Southampton staff and the players backed me."

"They know that's part of football and sometimes things like that happen, so they were supportive."

Although Bialkowski, whose contract was expiring in the summer, did not discuss his future until after the season ended, he knew his time was up.

And, had Saints wanted to keep him, he is not even sure that he would have accepted. The time has come to start playing again.

"I wanted to play and I knew that even if they offered me a contract that they would need to do

forward," he insists.

"I wanted to go somewhere where I could play regularly week in and week out."

And, while Bialkowski is leaving a Premier League side to drop down two levels, he does so in the hope of one day returning to the top flight.

"I want to play at the highest level I can, and I believe I can be a Premier League keeper," he says.

"Obviously, I lost some time in Southampton sitting on the bench, so I need to start playing."

"As a player, you always want to play at the highest level, and that's the Premier League."

"Unfortunately for me, at Southampton, it wasn't to be."

"But I really believe I can be there in a couple of years."

And Bialkowski has another burning ambition he wants to achieve.

"I've not given up on the national team," he explains. "I still want to play for Poland."

Bialkowski, who was with Saints for almost their entire spell out of the Premier League, has backed his former colleagues to be a hit as the club returns to the top flight.

"There is a great group of lads and a great atmosphere in the dressing room there," he says.

"If everyone sticks together like they have done the last two years then they can achieve some success next



something with me going out on loan or I thought that I might not accept, because I really want to play and improve," he says.

"But after the last game I spoke to the gaffer and I knew I was not going to be the number one."

It did not take long for Notts County to sign him to a three-year deal, with the League One side declaring this month that he is their new number one custodian.

For Bialkowski, it is a perfect fit.

"Some people might see Notts County as a step back for me, but I see it as a step

In the two seasons that followed, Bialkowski would make just five appearances.

Outside of cup fixtures and filling in for Davis during the occasional injury, he was firmly number two for the rest of his Saints career.

But there is not a hint of bitterness.

"Kelvin did everything he could to stay in the team," says Bialkowski. "He's been amazing for Southampton, and I was happy for him."

"He is a great keeper and

a really experienced guy. We talked a lot in the training sessions - he always tried to help me."

"He's a top person, and I learned a lot from him."

"I feel I improved a lot, because I worked with such great goalkeeping coaches, like Malcolm Webster, Keith Granger and Jim Stannard, and also with Kelvin and Richard Wright."

"I think I improved. But you can only improve properly when you're playing, and I didn't play a lot, so I still think I can improve a

lot more."

While Bialkowski rates his debut as the highlight of his Saints career, he is in no doubt about the lowest moment - and it is not even the injury at Newcastle.

"The Blackpool game," he says ruefully, referring to the 2-2 draw at St Mary's last December. "I enjoyed every game I played for Southampton, apart from the Blackpool game."

It is not enjoyable asking Bialkowski to dredge the memory up.

The sight of Callum

season.

"It's a great club with a great manager, great players and fantastic supporters."

Before we finish the interview, there is one thing Bialkowski wants to make sure gets included.

"I really want to say thank you to all the fans for the support they have given me there," he says.

It is hard to imagine there

is a Saints supporter out there who doesn't hope Bialkowski one day gets to achieve his Premier League dream.

WOULD REDKNAPP HAVE DONE BETTER? TURN OVER THE PAGE ...



Newcastle United

In: Romain Amalfitano (Rennes) Free

Out: Dan Taylor (Oldham) Free Danny Guthrie, Peter Lovenkrands, Alan Smith (all released)

Norwich City

In: Adam Drury (Leeds) - Free, Zak Whitbread, Aaron Wilbraham (both released)

QPR

In: Ryan Nelsen (Tottenham) - Free, Andrew Johnson (Fulham) - Free, Robert Green (West Ham) - Free; Samba Diakite (Nancy) Undisclosed

Out: Patrick Agyemang, Akos Buzsaky, Lee Cook, Danny Gabbidon, Fitz Hall, Rowan Vine, Peter Ramage, Gary Borrowdale, Danny Shittu (all released)

Reading

In: Garath McCleary (Nottingham Forest) - Free

Out: Andy Griffin, Cedric Baseya, Brian Howard, Tomasz Cywka - (all released)

Saints

In: Jay Rodriguez (Burnley) - £7m

Out: Harlee Dean (Brentford) - Free, Lee Holmes (Preston) - Free, Bartosz Bialkowski (Notts County) - Free, Aaron Martin (Crystal Palace) - Loan, Ryan Doble (Shrewsbury) - Free, David Connolly (Released), Radhi Jaidi (Retired)

Stoke City

In: Ben Glasgow (Arsenal) - Free

Out: Andrew Davies (Bradford) - Free, Salif Diao, Ricardo Fuller, Tom Soares (all released)

Sunderland

In: Trevor Carson (Bury) - Free, Craig Gordon (released)

Swansea City

In: Ferrie Bodde (released)

Tottenham

In: Niko Kranjcar (Dynamo Kiev) - £5.5m, Ryan Nelsen (QPR) - Free, Louis Saha, Ben Alnwick (both released)

WBA

In: Joe Mattock (Sheffield Wednesday) - Free, Keith Andrews, Marton Fulop, Somen Tchoyi, Nicky Shorey, Paul Scharner (all released)

West Ham United

In: Jussi Jaaskelainen (Bolton) - Free, Mohamed Diame (Wigan) - Free, Stephen Henderson (Portsmouth) - Undisclosed

Out: Sam Cowler (Barnet) - Undisclosed, Robert Green (QPR) - Free, Frank Nouble (Wolves) - Free, Ruud Boffin (Eskişehirspor) - Free, Jordan Brown (Barnet) Free, Peter Kurcz, Julien Faubert, John Carew, Abdoulaye Faye, Papa Bouba Diop (all released)

Wigan Athletic

In: Chris Kirkland (Sheffield Wednesday) - Free, Mohamed Diame (West Ham) - Free Steve Gohouri, Hugo Rodallega, Hendry Thomas (all released)

Adam Rant

This week's big talking points
with Adam Leitch

All systems go - but not yet

THE ICC's judgement not to make the decision review system mandatory was certainly unexpected, but until it can be applied consistently it is hard to argue with.

Adam Rant has to say he was sceptical about the use of video technology to start with for things that are not as clear cut as run outs or no balls, but the system has actually worked better than expected.

However, there remains one major stumbling block and, until that is sorted out, it is hard to make it mandatory.

That is the availability of the different elements of the DRS system which are totally inconsistent.

Because of the cost of the technology it is left to the host broadcaster rather than the ICC or the national boards to make the call on what is available.

Generally, run outs are fine because it involves simply positioned cameras – and Hawkeye is now pretty much standard.

But some will not have things such as hot spot, let alone snickometer, another essential tool.

There is nothing more frustrating than seeing the DRS in use but then the technology not existing to make a clear and correct decision either way when it has been refereed.

At the moment both teams have to agree at the start of a series to use the DRS system and it is India who largely stand against it, while Sri Lanka seem to be picking and choosing when they want it.

It is ridiculously inconsistent, but then the issue of a level playing field of technology when operating the DRS system needs to be introduced, either first or in conjunction with any mandatory regulations to do the game the justice it deserves.

Summer didn't last very long!

IT seems hard to believe it all starts again so soon.

The Saints squad have returned for the start of pre-season training, complete with new boy Jay Rodriguez, pictured. Probably for them as well as a football reporter, the summer always seems so short.

It's the strange thing about football. Players probably get asked the same as journalists and all those many people up and down the country who work for football clubs 'what do you do all summer?'

Well the clubs don't just shut down, the players don't, or shouldn't, stop staying in shape and the fans don't suddenly decide they don't want to read about their teams anymore.

It's just a little less hectic.

My answer is always the same, though – the summer is, at best, six weeks long.

As soon as the players are back for pre-season it has started again.

The friendlies quickly roll around and then the season proper, which most people wrongly consider to be the start for players, club officials and journalists.

This year the gap was exceptionally long – 61 days between the last day of last season and the first day of pre-season.

HARRY MAY

HAVE DONE

JOB BETTER



ROY HODGSON

AS per usual following an England exit from a major championship, the recriminations have rumbled on.

But this time we should draw a line under it because the team just weren't good enough.

For much of the tournament Adam Rant was away on holiday and, whilst in range of a TV one day, a foreign news channel was talking about the Euros and said 'for the first time in living memory, neither the English public nor the press expect the team to win this tournament.'

How true that statement was, and how correct we all turned out to be.

In some ways it is a nicer situation to be in, and we should perhaps all take a bit of comfort in that.

In previous tournaments the team has been good enough to win, or at least give it a right good go, and so the failure has been painful.

This time round, most people accepted we weren't good enough.

And so it proved.

Changing manager so soon before a major tournament didn't help.

And, while Adam Rant likes and admires Roy Hodgson, he does wonder whether a motivational manager like

Harry Redknapp might have got more out of the players.

The bottom line is that they were not good enough and so, to succeed, they were going to need something extra.

That is the way sport goes – the best teams do not always win, but those that triumph against the odds do have an extra

something that gains them an edge.

Redknapp might have just given the team that.

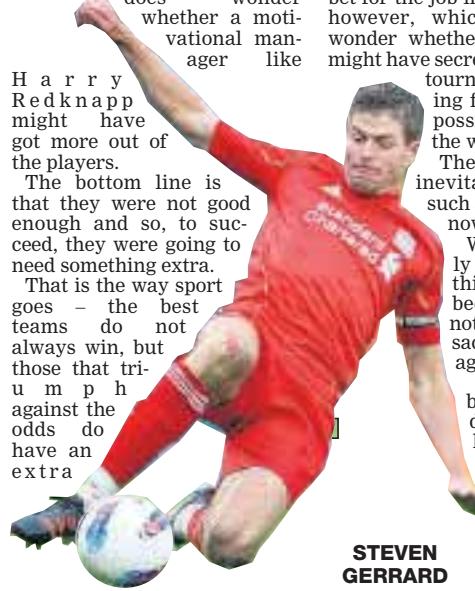
Hodgson is probably a better bet for the job in the long term, however, which makes you wonder whether even the FA might have secretly written this tournament off, hoping for the best but possibly expecting the worse.

The question inevitably asked at such a time is: where now for England?

Well, it's actually easy to answer this time round because we are not contemplating sacking the manager.

Hodgson has to be given time to do his job and has to revolutionise the team.

Of the old guard, the 30-plusers that is, the



STEVEN GERRARD



But had the FA already secretly written off Euro 2012?

HARRY REDKNAPP

only one that can reasonably be expected to stay for the next World Cup is Steven Gerrard, though probably in more of a holding midfield role.

Adam Rant does not mean to sound disrespectful to England, who did field good players, but they did not have many world class players and ultimately that was always likely to be the difference.

In Wayne Rooney they had one genuinely world class player, with Gerrard at that level when he is totally fit, Ashley Cole round about when on top of his game – but playing at full back and Joe Hart getting there.

It's not enough to win tournaments at that level, you need to have a whole team bursting with such talent.

Will there be a team full of world beaters there in two years time?

At the moment it doesn't look likely, but you never know what development will take place at club level.

At least this time the expectation didn't crush us.

Just the inevitability.

Paine's World

The Saints legend's **EXCLUSIVE** column on all things football

OLD GUARD HAVE HAD THEIR DAY

I HAVE to disagree with Roy Hodgson's statement that there are reasons to be optimistic about England's future.

I said before the Euros began that England should forget the prospect of winning the tournament and concentrate instead on preparing for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

The results in this tournament flattened England, and my biggest disappointment was not seeing enough of the younger elements in the squad.

The tried and trusted senior players have had enough chances and they have failed miserably.

To be fair, the new England manager was only appointed on May 1 and had little time to prepare the squad. What preparation they did have was obviously concentrated on defensive formations.

But that is exactly my argument. Hodgson wouldn't have been blamed for England's performances, so why not take a more positive approach, both in terms of team selection and attacking flair?

It was proved against Sweden that, when the handbrake was taken off, England looked far happier with the freedom they were allowed.

My fear is how England will play in the years ahead. The long-time problem of giving the ball away was again in evidence in this tournament.

While other national teams are so comfortable in possession, England handle the ball like a hot potato.

Against Italy, it was glaringly obvious that Andrea Pirlo was pulling the strings.

He cleverly played slightly deeper, so as not to be confronted by England's two midfield players, Steven Gerrard and Scott Parker.

Although Hodgson believes statistics don't always paint a true picture, he must have realised that, unless they kept Pirlo quiet, Italy would dominate for long periods.

I looked up the stats regarding England's two midfield players and Italy's number one. Pirlo was by far the dominant player compared to the English duo put together. He had far more possession, his pass rate was superior, and his crossing into the box was successful 50 per cent of the time, whereas Gerrard and Parker cross rate was zero.

Surely England have to be sharper and be prepared

Bring in the new boys

to change tactics for the benefit of the team, regardless of reputation?

With 64 per cent possession and 31 shots to England's eight, Italy were allowed to run the show, while their opponents' coaching staff dithered over making the necessary changes.

What I hope to see in England's future games is the nucleus of younger players being given a chance.

Maybe in the Olympics we can see some of them, and hopefully we will get a glimpse of those young players who were injured and not able to make the Euros.

I would certainly like to see Kyle Walker, of Tottenham, and Arsenal's Jack Wilshere join Danny Welbeck, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Theo Walcott in a new-look England team.

My initial comments at the end of the Italy match when I was asked about it in our studio presentation were that England are a million miles away from winning a major tournament.

This view was endorsed by former England captain Alan Shearer, who added we have no chance of winning the next World Cup.

There have been calls from many professionals in the game to change the way it is being taught at grass roots level.

It is a fact that the FA have recently voted in proposals for youth coaching, which include smaller sided games, on smaller pitches, with smaller goals, and that is certainly a step in the right direction.

But if there is to be any progress on the international stage then a complete overhaul of the coaching structure is needed – and that could take years.

Hodgson must reflect on his starting formations and realise that, while 4-4-2 may be ok at places like West Brom, it is a relic of yesteryear on the international scene.

England need to change their approach to the game if we are to be successful in the future.



FUTURE ENGLAND STARS: Ex-Saints Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, left, and Theo Walcott, below.

Italians in with a shout

ITALY will certainly push Spain all the way in the Euro 2012 final, following their shock win against Germany.

The Italians denied Germany the space they needed – and Mario Balotelli, pictured, showed why he could become a genuine superstar.

Germany created enough in the first half-hour to have taken the lead, but once Balotelli came to the party there was only one winner.

It just shows what an enigma Balotelli is. There is no doubt his ability and his two goals were outstanding.

At 21, he has huge potential and if he can control himself on and off the field he has a tremendously exciting future.

We've all been a little upset at his behaviour since he's been at Manchester City but there's no denying he can play.

He took his two goals really well to put Germany on the back foot.

Although Germany were the favourites, I suspected them to be vulnerable defensively if anyone really had a go at them.

Having been beaten 5-3 by Switzerland in a pre-tournament friendly I thought their defence could be their Achilles heel.

Sure enough, Hummels and Badstuba, the two central defenders, were found wanting. Balotelli exposed them with the header, Badstuba being the wrong side, and they were nowhere to be seen when Riccardo Montolivo played the ball over the top for the second.

What those goals did was open it up and it was a cracking game.

But Germany weren't clever enough to open them up. Although they got the penalty in the dying seconds, I don't think they would have a goal from open play if they were still playing now.

I wasn't sure about the substitutions, particularly taking Gomez and Podolski off as early as half-time. Gomez and Klose would have been a better option as a partnership and it was strange that Thomas Muller, the Golden Boot winner at the last World Cup, didn't come on until the last 20 minutes.

Italy thoroughly deserved to win and but the final is so tight to call. I'm giving Spain the edge by the odd goal.

Axe had to fall on Bert

THERE are always casualties after major tournaments.

Losing managers will always find themselves in the firing line.

Already, there have been a number of dismissals, and I always feel sorry for those who have lost their jobs.

In saying that, though, one I do endorse is the firing of Netherlands coach Bert van Marwijk.

A statement from the Dutch federation confirmed that,

although he was contracted through to 2016, his tenure would be ended with immediate effect.

I shall never forgive the Dutch coach for the way he prepared the Oranje for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

To say the Dutch spoiled the party in the final, against Spain, would be understating his approach to the game, as it was nothing short of a capitulation to the normal Dutch way of playing.

I believe he has set Dutch football a difficult task in rekindling the beautiful game for which they were famous.

Since 2010, the team has stood still under Van Marwijk.

The Netherlands' clear ambition of lifting the European Championship failed to materialise after they lost all three of their group matches. Their collection of stars never worked well together, resulting in a disappointing exit.





Richer Than God
By David Conn

Sportsbookofthemonth.com
price: £11.89, saving 30% on
rrp

When Manchester City captain Vincent Kompany finally lifted the Premier League trophy, it signified the end of a 44-year barren spell since City last won the league title.

But the moment also marked the fulfilment of a billionaire Arab's quest to take over a football club and turn them into the best team in the land.

The intervening years, sandwiched between the halcyon days of Maine Road heroes Bell, Lee and Summerbee and the epic drama of Sergio Aguero's late winner at the Etihad Stadium, were fraught with moments referred to by long-suffering fans as 'Typical City'.

From the disastrous return of Malcolm Allison as manager to the second coming of Francis Lee as a director and the embarrassingly open-armed welcome to former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, Manchester City's history has been littered with false dawns.

Indeed, City's continued association with the tragicomic and their long-standing blight of living in the shadow of such illustrious neighbours made them an intriguing story even before the riches of Abu Dhabi's Sheikh Mansour made them the world's wealthiest football club.

Sports writer David Conn, a

Manchester City fan since the early seventies, is well placed to write about the club's new-found fiscal security.

He does so by alternating between insights into how City now operate as a business and his own emotional experiences as an embattled supporter.

Ever the intrepid reporter (the author is considered an 'international enemy of Leeds United' by their chairman Ken Bates for his foraging into the club's ownership), Conn gives his audience a rare glimpse of the human side of the Arab takeover through interviews with chairman Khaldoon Al Mubarak and Director of Football Brian Marwood.

Even more engaging is the way in which Conn speaks of his early days as a fan on Maine Road's bleak terraces and his battle to remain passionate in his support for his club during a more money-conscious age.

Conn's fervour and dedication to football comes over expressively throughout, making 'Richer Than God' an honest and moving account of his relationship with the game.

The book spans the evolution of a football club and the sport itself over 40 years.

Importantly, it showcases Conn's talents as one of the nation's leading football writers and, thanks to Manchester City's last-gasp title win, it even has a happy ending.

TOOLSTATION
A LOT MORE THAN TOOLS

Premiership Spotlight



BIGGEST SHAKE-UP IN

THE dust is starting to settle on the biggest Premier League managerial upheaval of all time.

Six top flight clubs have appointed a new boss within the last few weeks, and Tottenham are preparing to do likewise.

That means over a third of the 20 top flight clubs will go into 2012/13 with a new face at the helm, all seven managers trying desperately to impose their character and footballing philosophies on their squads.

At least Saints won't have to worry about that, and it could well be that Nigel Adkins' familiarity with his squad – and vice versa – will be one of Saints' secret weapons when it comes to taking on the elite.

Here, sports editor **SIMON CARTER** analyses all the recent Premier League managerial changes, and what impact they could have.

MARCH 4:
Chelsea sack Andre Villas-Boas.

At the time, the Blues were fifth in the Premier League, three points adrift of fourth spot, but still in both the Champions League and FA Cup.

Under caretaker Roberto Di Matteo, they went on to finish sixth, five points adrift of fourth place.

Given that in the previous eight seasons they had finished, starting with 2003/04, in second, first, first, second, second, third, first and second respectively, that was obviously a major blow.

At any other time, there was no way that Di Matteo would be appointed permanently with a league record which read: Played 11, Won 5, Drew 3, Lost 3.

But, as we know, the last few weeks of the season were no ordinary time.

Not only did Chelsea lift the FA Cup for the fourth time in six seasons, but they confounded the odds by not only beating Barcelona in the semi-final of the Champions League, but then being crowned European champions for the first time by beating Bayern Munich in their own stadium.

So who knows what goes through the Russian oligarch's mind?

However, on this occasion, Di Matteo

ROBERTO DI MATTEO

was duly confirmed as Chelsea's 10th successive foreign manager/coach.

The last Englishman in charge there was Glenn Hoddle, whose three-year tenure as boss was only ended in 1996 when he answered his country's call after Euro 96.

Indeed, the days of the likes of John Neal and John Hollins being in charge at a rundown Stamford Bridge – as they were for seven years between 1981 and 1988 –

ROMAN ABRAMOVICH

are now a very distant memory thanks to Abramovich's huge wealth.

Not that those two didn't bring silverware to the club, though – Neal won the Second Division title in 1983/84 while Hollins guided the Blues to the Full Members Cup in 1986!

Times, as we have seen, have changed ...

The Chelsea owner has completely altered the Premier League landscape since taking over in 2003, and for a while was used to getting what he wanted, certainly in terms of the transfer market.

Manchester City's emergence as a major force has changed that somewhat.

Di Matteo, for his part,

will be charged with restoring the club as a major Premier League title challenger.

Given that Chelsea finished an amazing – for them – 25 points adrift of the Manchester duo last season, do not under-estimate the challenge he faces.

And, unlike his six predecessors, he won't be able to rely on the talismanic Didier Drogba for help.

But Fernando Torres remains at Stamford Bridge, and Di Matteo's long-term future in west London could rest on whether he is the man who can revitalise the one-time golden boy of European football.

Lest we forget, John



FANCY A FLUTTER AT THE RACES? TURN TO THE BACK PAGE

Premiership Spotlight



PREMIER HISTORY ...



ALEX McLEISH



KENNY DALGLISH

Terry's court case is due to begin before a ball is kicked in anger in 2012/13, and we wait to see what the impact the outcome has on football as a whole, and both the player and his club.

MAY 13: Roy Hodgson leaves West Bromwich Albion to take over England

Well, who saw THAT one coming?

The man sacked by Liverpool just over a year earlier – an embarrassing end to easily his highest profile English club job – coveted by his country ahead of almost everyone's favourite, Harry Redknapp.

Look beyond the media hype surrounding the ex-

Saints boss, though, and England's approach made sense.

Hodgson started his managerial career in 1976, so has incredible experience.

He has managed Switzerland in a World Cup

finals, he has taken Italian giants Inter to a UEFA Cup final, only losing on penalties.

In 2009/10 Hodgson also oversaw one of the most amazing cup runs of any English team in modern times,

HARRY REDKNAPP



when he led Fulham to the Europa League final.

In many ways, this was a greater achievement than Redknapp plotting Spurs' impressive Champions League performances a year later.

OK, Hodgson slipped up Liverpool, though his league points per game record would turn out to be superior to his successor.

But Redknapp's own career CV contains his less than distinguished spell at St Mary's, does it not?

"All you can do

is leave the club in a better shape than when you found it," he said on departing White Hart Lane.

He certainly did that at Spurs. But Saints? Or even Pompey, given what has happened since he left Fratton Park for a second time in October 2008?

MAY 14: Aston Villa sack Alex McLeish

Ok, most people saw THAT one coming!

McLeish was close to overseeing successive Premier League relegations in 2011/12.

Twelve months after taking Birmingham down, the Scot won only seven games out of 38 as Villa ended 16th, just two points above

the drop zone.

It was the same number of wins that Saints managed when they finished bottom in 2004/05.

Given that they had finished ninth the season before, and add McLeish's Birmingham links, and no wonder the supporters were aggrieved.

MAY 16: Liverpool sack Kenny Dalglish

He might have won the League Cup – albeit, beating a second tier club on penalties – and he might have reached the FA Cup final.

But Liverpool's abysmal league form, for a club of their stature, resulted in the American owners taking the highly controversial decision to dispense with the Anfield legend.

Dalglish was certainly given money to spend, and spend it he did - £35m on Andy Carroll, almost £20m on Jordan Henderson, a similar figure on Stewart Downing, even more on Luis Suarez.

None of those big money signings, though, impressed as Liverpool finished eighth, a gargantuan 37 points adrift of the Manchester pair.

It was only the second time since 1963 that the club had finished outside the top flight's top seven.

For those of us who grew up at a time when Liverpool dominated English football and Anfield was the proverbial fortress, it seems incredible to think the club only won six home league games last season.

But they did, and that partly explains why the owners felt another change was necessary.

JUNE 1: Liverpool appoint Brendan Rodgers

Having sacked a man who won four European Cups in a glittering career, Liverpool replace Kenny Dalglish with someone who once played for Newport on the Isle of Wight.

Sacked by Reading in 2009, who would ever have thought Brendan Rodgers' star would rise so high so quickly that he was sought after by one of the world's most famous clubs.

And make no mistake about that; Liverpool might be a pale shadow of the club that ruled English football for most of the 70s and 80s

CONT ON PAGE 8



The Plan
By Steve James

Sportsbookofthemonth.com
price: £10.40, saving 48% on rrp

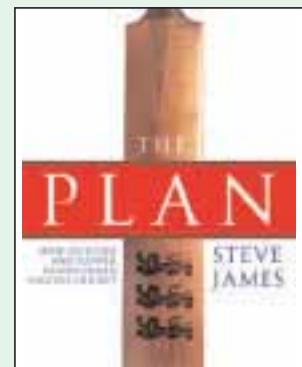
In Wisden's 2010 Cricketers' Almanack, former Somerset bowler Vic Marks wrote, "while it might be possible... to consult the ever-increasing number of analysts, who detail every contribution of every player, the simple explanation for England's improvement in 2009 was surely this: at the top they had the right men in the right jobs."

While partially accurate, in truth, England's journey (assisted with a fair smattering of other nationalities) on an often tortuous road to success had begun a decade earlier when two men were charged with resurrecting them from the foot of cricket's world rankings following a home defeat by an average New Zealand XI.

The dramatic turnaround in attitude, perspective and demeanour which resulted in England eventually topping the world rankings in 2011 was navigated primarily by Duncan Fletcher and Andy Flower.

Former Glamorgan star Steve James is particularly well qualified to chart the reasons behind England's gradual renaissance.

After reading Classics at Swansea University, he was a postgraduate at



Cambridge where he gained a cricketing Blue in the side captained by Mike Atherton.

He played county cricket for Glamorgan for eighteen years, accumulating almost 16,000 runs and was twice capped by England.

James illustrates how and why innovative coaching methods worked; why the choice of captains was so critical; how the introduction of central contracts relieved pressure on players and why a comprehensive overhaul of training and match preparation underpinned a remarkable turnaround.

Essentially, however, England clawed their way up the world rankings because two men in particular, Fletcher and Flower, refused to accept second best.

The pair's Zimbabwean character proved a major contributor to on-field success and what sparkling success it was.

James uses his professional cricketing knowledge to dissect and then explain the reasons behind Ashes, one day and T20 triumphs with an easy, flowing style and insight which makes *The Plan* a genuine pleasure to read.

BIG SIR STEVEN REDGRAVE INTERVIEW - TURN TO PAGE 22



LEAGUE ONE INS AND OUTS

Bournemouth

In: Lewis Grabban (Rotherham) £150k, Josh McQuoid (Millwall) - p/ex, Frank Demouge (Utrecht) Free
Out:
Scott Malone (Millwall) £750k p/ex
Mathieu Baudry, Warren Cummings, Lyle Taylor (all released), Michael Symes (Leyton Orient) Free

Brentford

In: Harlee Dean (Saints) Free, Adam Forshaw (Everton) Free, Stuart Dallas (Crusaders) Undisclosed
Out: Marcus Bean (Colchester) Free
Gary Alexander (Crawley) Undisclosed
Liam Bellamy (Ebbsfleet) Free
Karleigh Osborne, Marcel Eger, Sam Wood (all released)

Bury

In: Trevor Carson (Sunderland) - Free
Out: Andy Howarth (Falkirk) Free
Anthony Williams (retired).

Carlisle

In: Mike Edwards (Notts County) Free
Danny Cadamarteri (Unattached) - Free
Out: Craig Curran, Stephen O'Halloran (both Released)

Colchester

In: Marcus Bean (Brentford) Free
Out: Steven Gillespie (Fleetwood) - Undisclosed, Kayode Odejayi (Rotherham) - Free

Coventry

In:
Out: Clive Platt (Northampton) - Free

Crawley

In: Paul Jones (Peterborough) Free, Mat Sadler (Walsall) Free, Gary Alexander (Brentford) Undisclosed, Nicky Adams (Rochdale) Undisclosed
Out: Tyrone Barnett (Peterborough) - £1.2m, Dean Howell (Fleetwood) - Free
Scott Shearer (Rotherham) - Free
Ben Smith, Pablo Mills, John Dempster, Glenn Wilson (all released)

Crewe

In:
Out: Nick Powell (Man Utd) £4m, Lee Bell, Carl Martin, David Artell, Jordan Brown, Jordan Connerton, Danny Shelley (all released)

Doncaster Rovers

In: David Syers (Bradford) - Free
David Cotterill (Barnsley) - Free
Out: Sam Hird (Chesterfield) - Free
James Hayter (Yeovil, free), Adam Lockwood, Mustapha Dumbuya, John Oster, Simon Gillett, Paul Keegan (all released)

Hartlepool

In: Jonathan Franks (Middlesbrough) Free
Out: Gary Liddle (Notts County) - Free
James Brown (Gateshead) - Free
Adam Boyd, Colin Larkin, Steven Haslam (all released), Noberto Solano - (retired)

Leyton Orient

In: Gary Sawyer (Bristol Rovers) Free, Anthony Griffith (Port Vale) - Free, Michael Symes (Bournemouth) Free
Out: Terrell Forbes (Chesterfield) Free
Dean Leacock (Notts County) Free
Jamie Cureton, Jonathan Tehoue (both released)

MK Dons

In:
Out: George Williams (Fulham)
Undisclosed

Notts County

In: Enoch Showunmi (Tranmere) Free, Bartosz Bialkowski (Southampton) Free, Gary Liddle (Hartlepool) Free, Dean Leacock (Leyton Orient) Free
Out: Ben Burgess (Tranmere) Free, Mike Edwards (Carlisle) Free, Ishmel Demontagnac (Northampton) Free, Karl Hawley, Stephen Hunt, Jude Stirling, Robert Burch, Stuart Nelson, John Spicer, Sam Sodje, Liam Chilvers, Charlie Allen.

Cont on facing page

Premiership Spotlight



Who's on and off the

From Page 7

but they are still a worldwide brand name.

No one can question that impact Rodgers made at Swansea in 2011/12, and the Welsh club were one of the success stories of last season's Premier League.

But is he the right man, with his limited experience at the highest level, for a club of Liverpool's standing.

No doubt when Dalglish was sacked, fans expected a high profile appointment, possibly someone with previous international experience as well as Champions League knowledge.

But they didn't get one.

What Liverpool do have, though, is a man hungry to go as high as he can, and a young, ambitious, determined man at that.

Armed with his coaching ability, it will be fascinating to see how much of an impact Rodgers makes at Anfield.

Indeed, of all the Premier League comings and goings, this will be easily the most interesting to watch.

JUNE 2: Paul Lambert leaves Norwich to take over at Aston Villa

Warning to Saints fans alert!

If your club makes the same impression in 2012/13 in the Premier League as Norwich and Swansea did last season, then expect Nigel Adkins' name to crop up with regards to jobs at 'bigger' clubs.

After all, it only took 38 games for Liverpool to covet Brendan Rodgers and for Aston Villa to decide that Paul Lambert was the man to restore glory days at Villa Park.

I have been surprised Adkins' name has not cropped up in the national media with regards to some of the Premier League jobs that have recently become vacant.

I didn't expect him to be linked with Liverpool or Spurs, but why not Norwich, Villa, West Brom or Swansea?

Adkins is young, possesses a great CV – four promotions in less than six full seasons as a Football League manager! – embraces sports science, he likes to promote youngsters, and he plays the game the right way.

I find it hard to believe his name wasn't mentioned at



BRENDAN RODGERS



PAUL LAMBERT

all in Premier League boardrooms, for his record deserves the utmost respect.

Never mind, Saints fans aren't complaining and I don't expect them to.

As for Lambert, he obviously thought he had taken the Canaries as far as he could.

In today's money-mad Premier League, he might be right.

Norwich finished fourth in the old First Division in 1988/89, and were actually third in the Premier League's first season, 1992/93.

But those days are long gone, and might never return, unless some ultra-rich Russians or Sheikhs

decide they would like a Norfolk-based toy to play with.

Lambert, after guiding Norwich to their highest league placing since 1993/94, jumped at the chance to take over a club that finished five places below his side in 2011/12.

Aston Villa, though, are a 'bigger' name than Norwich. They will pay more, and more money should be made available for new signings. Villa have a bigger history and can attract bigger crowds.

They are, therefore, more attractive, in the same way that Saints were a more attractive proposition than Bristol Rovers and Colchester when they

signed Rickie Lambert and Dean Hammond in 2009 when all three clubs were in the same division.

The best that can be said about Paul Lambert at present is that the Villa fans will give him more time than they did his predecessor.

JUNE 7: Norwich appoint Chris Hughton
Hughton's record deserves respect.

In his first full season as a manager, 2009/10, the former Republic of Ireland international masterminded Newcastle's Championship title win.

In the process, the Toon collected over 100 points.

Hughton was sacked in

December 2010 with Newcastle 12th in the Premier League, ex-Saint Alan Pardew taking his job.

Last summer he was given his second role managing a newly relegated club in the Championship, at Birmingham.

Again, Hughton impressed, leading the Blues to fourth place and the play-offs.

As a result, it was no surprise that his name was linked with most jobs going – Wolves and West Brom, before Norwich appointed the one-time Spurs coach.

Though he has only had half a season of Premier League managerial experience, Hughton was no gamble by the Canaries board.

WENDY GEE'S NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL STARTS ON PAGE 12

Premiership Spotlight



merry go round ...?



STEVE CLARKE



CHRIS HUGHTON

Perhaps Lambert left Carrow Road because he didn't think Norwich could better last season's achievement.

He might well be right, but don't under-estimate Hughton's ability.

JUNE 8: West Brom appoint Steve Clarke
An appointment which should be applauded.

At 48 – a year younger than Nigel Adkins – Clarke is one of the youngest managers in the top flight.

He is also the most inexperienced, as this is his first ever permanent position.

Clarke's coaching career, though, has taken in spells at Newcastle under Ruud Gullit, Chelsea under Jose

Mourinho, West Ham under Gianfranco Zola and Liverpool under Kenny Dalglish.

If nothing else, he should have learnt a lot from those stellar names in terms of playing the game in an attractive manner.

While some clubs can't wait to appoint continental managers, well done West Brom for giving a young English coach his big break.

As we have seen when Fabio Capello quit, there was not exactly a large list of English-born potential replacements.

Who would have been your third choice after Hodgson and Redknapp? Alan Pardew? Sam

Allardyce? Stuart Pearce?

JUNE 13: Spurs sack Harry Redknapp

On the face of it, a big surprise given Redknapp's achievements at White Hart Lane.

He led Spurs to two top four finishes, and it would be a major surprise if whoever replaces him in the hot-seat can better last season's fourth placed fin-

ish in 2012/13.

It was Redknapp who has fine-tuned Gareth Bale's talents into developing the ex-Saints youngster as one of the hottest properties in European football.

And it was Redknapp who signed Luca Modric, the man whose midfield playmaking abilities have helped turn Spurs into one of the most consistent sides of the last three Premier League seasons.

Could it all fall apart now? Redknapp has been relieved of his

MICHAEL LAUDRUP



MICHAEL LAUDRUP

duties?

Andre Villas-Boas is widely reported to be a favourite to take over, which would be a fascinating appointment if it comes off.

Spurs have had their fair share of continental managers – Ardiles, Gross, Santini, Jol, Ramos – and it would be no surprise if that's the route they went down.

June 15: Swansea appoint

Michael

Laudrup

Going foreign is certainly what Swansea did when appointing Brendan Rodgers's successor.

Laudrup was a magnificent player in his prime with Denmark, winning over 100 international caps – though he missed out on his country's greatest moment, winning the 1992 Euro Championships, after falling out with his coach.

At club level, Laudrup won five successive La Liga titles – the first four with Barcelona and one with Real Madrid.

Remarkably, he played for Barca in a 5-0 league win over Real Madrid in 1993/94, and the following season helped Madrid beat Barca by the same score!

As a manager, Laudrup's career has been far more low profile.

His highlight was winning the Danish League double with Brondby in 2004/05, after which he has managed Spanish pair Getafe and Mallorca either side of a short stint with Spartak Moscow.

While his playing pedigree is undoubtedly, the Swans' move for Laudrup does represent something of a gamble.

But the man who possessed superb technical ability is unlikely to tinker too much with the much admired style favoured by Rodgers.

If it ain't broke ...

A Premier League club bringing in a man who played for Barcelona and Real Madrid to replace one who turned out for Newport Isle of Wight ... football, thankfully, never loses its ability to amaze!

Oldham

In: Connor Brown (Sheffield United) – Free, Dan Taylor (Newcastle) Free
Out: Kieran Lee (Sheffield Wednesday) Undisclosed, Joel Ward (Crystal Palace) £400,000, Kelvin Etuhu (Barnsley) Ricardo Rocha, Benjani, Jamie Ashdown (all released)

Portsmouth

In: Jason Pearce (Leeds) £500,000, Stephen Henderson (West Ham) Undisclosed, Joel Ward (Crystal Palace) £400,000, Kelvin Etuhu (Barnsley) Ricardo Rocha, Benjani, Jamie Ashdown (all released)

Preston

In: David Amoo (Liverpool) Free, Richard Wright (Ipswich) Free, Lee Holmes (Southampton) Free, Jeffrey Monakana (Arsenal) Free, Keith Keane (Luton) Free, John Welsh (Tranmere) Free, John Mousinho (Stevenage) Free, David Buchanan (Tranmere) Free, Paul Huntington (Yeovil) Free, Scott Laird (Stevenage) Free, Shane Cansdell-Sherriff (Shrewsbury) Free, Nicky Wroe (Shrewsbury) Free
Out: David Gray (Stevenage) Free, George Miller (Accrington) Free, Nicky Hunt (Rotherham) Free, Ian Turner, Aaron Brown, Andreas Arestidou, Daniel Devine, Jamie Douglas (all released), Graham Alexander (retired)

Scunthorpe

In: Callum Kennedy (Swindon) Free, James Severn (Derby) Free
Out: Josh Lillis (Rochdale) Free, Michael O'Connor (Rotherham) Free, Andrew Wright (Morecambe) Free, Jordan Robertson, Cliff Byrne, Eddie Nolan, Sam Togwell, Garry Thompson (all released)

Sheffield United

In: Connor Brown (Oldham) Free, Steve Simonsen, Andy Taylor, Johannes Ertl, Seamus Connelly, James Beattie (all released)

Shrewsbury

In: Darren Jones (Aldershot) Free, Aaron Wildig (Cardiff) Free, Ryan Doble (Southampton) Free
Out: James Collins (Swindon) Free, Lionel Ainsworth (Rotherham) Undisclosed, Shane Cansdell-Sherriff (Preston) Free, Nicky Wroe (Preston) Free

Stevenage

In: Anthony Grant (Southend) Free, David Gray (Preston) Free, James Dunne (Exeter) Tribunal, Steve Arnold (Wycombe) Free, Greg Tansey (Inverness) Undisclosed
Out: Stacy Long (AFC Wimbledon) Free, John Mousinho (Preston) Free, Scott Laird (Preston) Free, Ronnie Henry (Luton) Free, Darren Murphy, Phil Edwards, Ben May, Chris Beardsley, Alan Julian, Peter Winn, Jenkinson Myrie-Williams (all released)

Swindon

In: Andy Williams (Yeovil) Free, Gary Roberts (Huddersfield) Free, James Collins (Shrewsbury) Free, Alan Navarro (Brighton) Free, Tommy Miller (Huddersfield) Free, Jay McEvie (Barnsley) Free
Troy Archibald-Henville (Exeter) Undisclosed
Out: Callum Kennedy (Scunthorpe) Free

Tranmere

In: Ben Burgess (Notts County) Free, Danny Harrison (Rotherham) Free, Jean-Louis Akpa Akpro (Rochdale) Free, James Wallace (Everton) Undisclosed
Out: Enoch Showunmi (Notts County) – Free, John Welsh (Preston) – Free, David Buchanan (Preston) – Free, Robbie Weir (Burton) – Free, Mustafa Tiryaki (1461 Trabzon) – Free
Joss Labadie, Martin Devaney, David Raven (all released)

Walsall

In: Alex Nicholls (Northampton) Free, Mat Sadler (Crawley) Free, Olly Lancashire (Aldershot) Free, Kevan Hurst (Southend) Free, Jamie Tank (Wolves) £20k approx, Ryan Jarvis (Torquay) Free, Jon Macken, Anton Peterlin (both released)

Yeovil

In: Reuben Reid (Oldham) – Free, Sam Foley (Newport) – Free, Keanu Marsh-Brown (Oldham) – Free, James Hayter (Doncaster) Free
Out: Andy Williams (Swindon) – Free, Paul Huntington (Preston) – Free, Billy Gibson (Cambridge) – Free, Kieran Agard, Nathan Jones (both released)

TEST YOUR SPORTS KNOWLEDGE – TURN TO PAGE 23

Premiership Spotlight

Did You Know?

WHERE THE PREMIER LEAGUE CLUBS ARE GOING FOR THEIR PRE-SEASON TOURS

Arsenal – Far East, Nigeria & Germany

July 24th – Malaysia XI v Arsenal
July 27th – Arsenal v Man City (in Beijing)
July 29th – Kitchee FC v Arsenal
August 5th – Match in Nigeria (opponents TBC)
August 12th – Cologne v Arsenal

Aston Villa – USA

July 18th – Philadelphia Union v Aston Villa
July 21st – Chicago Fire v Aston Villa
July 24th – Portland Timbers v Aston Villa

Chelsea – USA

July 18th – Seattle Sounders v Chelsea
July 22nd – Chelsea v PSG (in New York)
July 25th – MLS All Stars v Chelsea
July 28th – Chelsea v AC Milan (in Miami)

Everton – Scotland, Indonesia & Spain



ON TOUR: New Liverpool boss Brendan Rodgers is off to Canada and north America with the Reds.

July 18th – Dundee United v Everton
July 21st – Motherwell v Everton
July 26th – Everton v Galatasaray (in Jakarta)
July 29th (Date TBC) – Indonesia XI or Malaysia XI v Everton
August 11th – Malaga v Everton

Fulham – China

Three matches, dates and opponents TBC shortly

Liverpool – Canada & USA

July 21st – Toronto FC v Liverpool
July 25th – Roma v Liverpool (in Boston)
July 28th – Tottenham v Liverpool (in Baltimore)

Manchester City – Far East

July 27th – Arsenal v Man City (in Beijing)
July 30th – Malaysia XI v Man City

Manchester United – South Africa, China, Norway

July 18th – AmaZulu FC v Man Utd
July 21st – Ajax Cape Town v Man Utd
cont on facing page



Business deals are

Simon Carter
simon.carter@dailyecho.co.uk
SPORTS EDITOR

EVER more so, Premier League clubs are looking to previously untapped markets to help secure their financial future.

Elite clubs such as Manchester United, Arsenal and Chelsea have for many years worked hard at boosting their appeal in the Far East and north America with pre-season tours.

But now even the top flight's lesser lights are joining in.

Sunderland vice-chairman David Miliband is confident his club's foray into Africa will be a massive help.

The Black Cats this week announced a sponsorship deal with Invest in Africa, a business initiative launched in association with Tullow Oil which it hopes will benefit both the African and domestic economies.

However, Miliband also revealed the agreement is the most lucrative in the club's history.

The former Foreign Secretary and South Shields MP said: "When I first joined the club, Ellis Short and Niall Quinn said, 'We are always trying to take a step up, each step needs to be a step up'.

"This is the most competitive league in the world and it is tough to get points.

"But we are confident that this is an important step up for Sunderland because it helps secure our financial future, and that is obviously vital to be able to do the business on the pitch as well."

Owner and current chairman Short and former chairman Quinn have worked hard in recent years to promote the club to a wider audience, and announced an initial partnership agreement with Invest in Africa in January.

Under the new agreement, the Black Cats will wear the not-for-profit organisation's logo on their shirts for at least the next two seasons, and will hope to attract a huge new fan base in the process.

Miliband said: "The biggest thing for us is that it is a long-term commercial partner and sponsor.

"There is obviously the shirts aspect to it, but it's deeper than that, it's about a whole range of contracts which include money coming into the club, as we have to be financially sustainable and the sponsorship is a vital part of that.

"But I never forget, we are a £75million or so turnover club, and Manchester United are, what £450million, £475million?

"We are trying to compete in the same league. We can beat Manchester City and they have got a pretty big turnover.



STAR NAMES: Ryan Giggs joined Bryan Robson in the Far East for the launch of Manchester United's tie-up with Chevrolet.

"We want to make sure that we have got a long-term financial stability that allows us to make the right decisions on players and on the pitch, as well as in the backroom."

Saints and their rival Premier

League clubs will share a staggering £3billion under the latest television rights deal, but Sunderland are keen to attract new income while attempting to keep football affordable for their fans.

FORMER Saints flop
Anthony Pulis will be coming up against his dad's Stoke City team next month.

Pulis, left, was signed by Saints in the summer of 2008, from Stoke, but failed to make a single first team appearance in three seasons at St Mary's.

After being released last summer, he joined Aldershot Town – only to move on again in January of this year to Florida club Orlando Pirates.

It's fair to say that Stoke played a part in the transfer, as Pirates have official links to the Premier League club.

There is even an Orlando Pirates section on Stoke's official website.

Orlando host Stoke as part of the latter's north American pre-season tour.

The game will also be a reunion of sorts for Orlando boss Adrian Heath.

Heath started his career with Stoke in the 1970s before enjoying success at Everton, where his goal gave the Toffees an FA Cup semi-final win over Saints in 1984.

Former Stoke midfielder James O'Connor is also in the Orlando squad, as is Wayne Rooney's younger brother, ex-Macclesfield striker John.

Miliband said: "Obviously, TV money is the biggest source of funds.

"We know it's really tough for our fans at the moment – that's why we have frozen season ticket prices, that's why the deal for the under-16s is that you can come and get a season ticket for less than £100.

"We are determined to make sure that we maximise income from sources other than our fans.

"What we want them to do is come to the match and cheer us on, and I think this deal is an important complement to that."

The tentacles of England's biggest and most wealthy clubs continue to spread across the world.

Manchester United recently confirmed a friendly against Chinese

GOT A VIEW ON SAINTS? EMAIL echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

Premiership Spotlight

so crucial now



WE'LL MEET AGAIN: Didier Drogba will be coming up against Manchester United in a pre-season friendly.

Super League outfit Shanghai Shenhua on July 25.

The game against the side that now boast Nicolas Anelka and Didier Drogba up front will be part of two matches United play in China during their pre-season programme.

The fixture was revealed as part of the five-year partnership with US car giant Chevrolet.

United were obviously taking it very seriously – they got Ryan Giggs to fly into Shanghai for the announcement of the commercial tie-up.

United have a strong market presence as a club in the Far East, with research conducted on behalf of the club showing they have twice as many supporters in the region as Barcelona, their nearest rivals.

United, who last visited China in 2009, also visit South Africa and Norway for pre-season games.

As for Arsenal, they are preparing for a pre-season tour of Africa to capitalise on the support the club has throughout the continent.

The Gunners have regularly travelled to the Far East in recent tours, but have never visited Africa before.

Arsenal have had to forfeit some of their pre-sea-

son training plans at their London base in order to fulfil their commercial responsibilities.

"We have had to compromise on the sporting side, because we had a rational, methodical approach to our pre-season," said boss Arsene Wenger.

"We have sacrificed some of that to go on tour.

"But we are in a race with the other clubs as well. I realised when I was at the World Cup in South Africa how



Did You Know?

July 25th – Shanghai Shenhua v Man Utd
August 5th – Valerenga v Man Utd

Newcastle – Germany, Portugal & Wales

July 13th – Chemnitzer v Newcastle
July 16th – Monaco v Newcastle
July 27th – Olympiakos v Newcastle
July 28th – Porto v Newcastle
August 11th – Cardiff v Newcastle

Norwich – Austria & Scotland

July 21st – Hertha Berlin v Norwich (in Gleisdorf)
July 24th – Celtic v Norwich

QPR – Asia

July 17th – Sabah Select XI v QPR
July 20th – Kelantan v QPR
July 23rd – Persebaya Surabaya v

Reading – Portugal

July 21st – Quarteirense v Reading
July 24th – Reading v Sheffield Wednesday (in Quarteirense)
July 27th – Olhanense v Reading

Saints – France

July 18th – Etoile Carouge v Southampton
July 21st – Evian TG v Southampton

Stoke – Switzerland & USA

July 18th – FC Sion v Stoke
July 24th – Columbus Crew v Stoke
July 28th – Orlando City v Stoke
August 1st – Sporting Kansas City v Stoke

Sunderland – Korea

July 19th – Seongnam Ilhwa Chunma v Sunderland
July 22nd – Stoke v Hamburg or FC Groningen (in Suwon)

Swansea – USA

July 27th – Colorado Rapids v Swansea
July 28th – Ventura County Fusion v Swansea
July 31st – San Jose Earthquakes v Swansea

Tottenham – USA & Spain

July 24th – LA Galaxy v Tottenham
July 28th – Tottenham v Liverpool (in Baltimore)
July 31st – New York Red Bulls v Tottenham
August 9th – Valencia v Tottenham

West Brom – Sweden

July 19th – Malmo v West Brom

West Ham – Austria & Germany

July 7th – Austria Vienna v West Ham
July 25th – Rot-Weiss Erfurt v West Ham
July 27th – Dynamo Dresden v West Ham
July 29th – Energie Cottbus v West Ham

Wigan Athletic – Sweden

Pre-season training camp.
Fixtures to be confirmed

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Non-league Football

Non-league News

Spurs legends visit
TOTTEHAM Hotspur Legends – including Southampton-born Darren Anderton – will play at Basingstoke Town Colts FC's Water End ground tomorrow (Sunday, July 1, 2pm).

The Spurs team, which will also feature former Fleet Town boss Andy Sinton, will take on a team comprising former managers and coaches of the north Hampshire youth outfit.

The fun starts at midday with other attractions including a rodeo bull, bouncy castle, live bands, BBQ and licensed beer tent.

Admission is £5 adults/£3 under-16s and concessions with the money raised going to Basingstoke Town Colts. Water End is just off the A30 between Old Basing and Hook, postcode RG24 7BA.

Sponsors stand by club INSURANCE company
LawShield will be stand sponsors at Eastleigh for the 2012/13 season.

LawShield's managing director Ken Specter said: "It gives us great pleasure to continue our association with Eastleigh FC. We wish the whole team, both on the pitch and behind the scenes at the club, all the best for the forthcoming season."

Darren Prangle, Spittires spokesman, added: "We are very grateful to LawShield for their continued commitment and delighted to work with a prestigious company with such a well respected reputation. Stand sponsorship is an important source of revenue for the football club."



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BAIRD HAILS RETURN OF THE MAC

EASTLEIGH boss Ian Baird believes Craig McAllister's experience and physical strength can hold the key to getting the Spittires out of the Blue Square Bet South next season.

At the age of 32, the imposing 6ft 1in Glasgow-born frontman has a wealth of League and non-League experience behind him with the likes of

Stevenage, Oxford United and Exeter City, writes WENDY GEE.

He helped Crawley Town gain promotion to the Football League and finished last season on loan at Luton Town, going on as a second-half substitute as they narrowly lost the BSB Premier play-off final to York City at Wembley.

McAllister penned a two-year deal for Eastleigh on Tuesday, ending a lengthy pursuit by Baird and club owner Stewart Donald who worked hard to hammer out a deal with Newport County where the powerful targetman was only halfway through a two-year contract.

He becomes the Spittires' seventh summer signing, following Marvin Williams, Osei Sankofa, Glen Southam, Dale Birns, Jai Reason and Jack Dovey into the Silverlake Stadium.

Welcoming McAllister into the fold, Baird said: "Craig has a very good physical presence and is exceptional in the air.

"Combine that with his excellent work ethic and he will add another dimension to our attacking options next season.

"Last season he was plying his trade for Luton, who got to the Conference National play-off final, and the season before he was an integral part of Crawley's Conference National-winning team. He has proven quality and that record is hard to ignore."

Joining Eastleigh is like coming home for McAllister who moved to Bitterne Park with his family at the age of seven.

His footballing tale began at former Hampshire League outfit Pirelli General from where he joined the Eastleigh youth ranks before moving on to Basingstoke Town a decade ago.

Under the guidance of then Basingstoke boss Ernie Howe, he banged in 53 goals in 96 appearances, trialling with several Football League clubs, including QPR, before moving to Stevenage Borough.

He returned to the Silverlake on loan in 2004, netting six times in four appearances, before being recruited by Woking. Spells at Grays Athletic, Oxford



CRAIG McALLISTER: Wealth of experience.

United and Exeter City followed before arriving at Crawley where his physical power and aerial strength made him the ideal foil for AFC Bournemouth's prolific former Salisbury marksman Matt Tubbs.

McAllister was part of the Red Devils team that famously reached the FA Cup fifth round against Manchester United at Old Trafford, but he rejected a

one-year contract extension at the end of that season after Crawley had achieved promotion to the Football League.

That, though, was a decision he would live to regret with the striker admitting his subsequent move to Newport had been a "low point" of his career.

Having signed a two-year deal with then Exiles boss Anthony Hudson last summer, he was shipped out on loan to Luton by Justin Edinburgh having scored just three goals in 30 appearances for the Welshmen.

Luton gave him a new lease of life and he went on as a second-half substitute at Wembley in May, only to leave the field with a nasty gash to the head.

McAllister reflected: "In hindsight I probably should have stayed with Crawley, but the Newport offer was for two years, giving me a bit of financial security."

"Everyone was great to me at Newport, but it just didn't work out and was definitely a low point in my career."

"What was crazy was, 12 months before, I was playing at Old Trafford in front of seventy-odd thousand, but that's football."

"I am really looking forward to the new season with Eastleigh and meeting up with the lads. I know Floody (Chris Flood) from our days at Crawley and know Smithy (Danny Smith) and Andy Forbes from local football growing up in Southampton."

"Whilst not for a second do I think this is the end of my career, I always said I wanted to come back to Eastleigh one day."

"I still own a house in the area and my parents are just up the road in Midhurst."

"Eastleigh tried to sign me last year before I went to Luton and the manager made a good impression and was really keen to get me, which is nice."

"Listening to him and the owner it is clear they want to push the club on with continued investment, so it's an exciting place to be around."

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Departs 6 & 8 July 2012

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This Day Trip, which takes place on the final Sunday, includes a seat on the wonderful 11,000 seater No. 1 Court, where you will see the stars of tomorrow and yesteryear competing in the Junior and Veterans' events..

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Non-league Football



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Getting to know you..

AFC TOTTON want their players to become instantly recognisable in the town.

The Evo-Stik Southern Premier club were represented by new signings Dave Allen and Luke Whitley and teenage striker Jack Odam at last weekend's summer fayre at nearby Oakfield Primary School and hope to support many more community events in the future.

Acting chairman Paul Wallace said: "We're a community club and we very much want to embrace the local feeling and put something back into the community."

"Sending players out into schools and supporting local events is something we've always wanted to do and our manager Steve Riley is very pro it as well. It's good PR for the club."

"The Totton & Eling Carnival is coming up on July 14 but, unfortunately, it clashes with our friendly at US Portsmouth so we won't be able to send any first-team players along. But we'll do our best to get a couple of reserve players to support it."

Defender Whitley (pictured left) and midfielder/striker Allen (centre) both followed new Totton boss Riley to the Testwood Stadium from Premier Division rivals Bashley.

Barton Peveril student Odam (right) does not turn 17 until August, but has already made the grade with England Colleges under-19s.

Non-league News

New boss in Town

FAREHAM Town have welcomed Jason Kennedy to the club as new under-18 manager.

Kennedy has been involved in football all his life, including a spell playing for Fareham's reserves.

"A highly thought of and experienced coach, Jason will bring some new ideas to the boys to help them realise their potential and make the move into adult football as seamless as possible," said a spokesman for the Sydenhams Premier club.

Kennedy will be assisted by goalkeeper Adam Redman, who helped with the under-18 B team last season.

Soccer studies chance
GOSPORT Borough's new development centre is weeks away from opening its doors.

The centre, run from Privett Park in conjunction with Gosport Pro-Active Sports Training Ltd, will offer educational coaching and apprenticeship schemes for 16 to 19-year-olds.

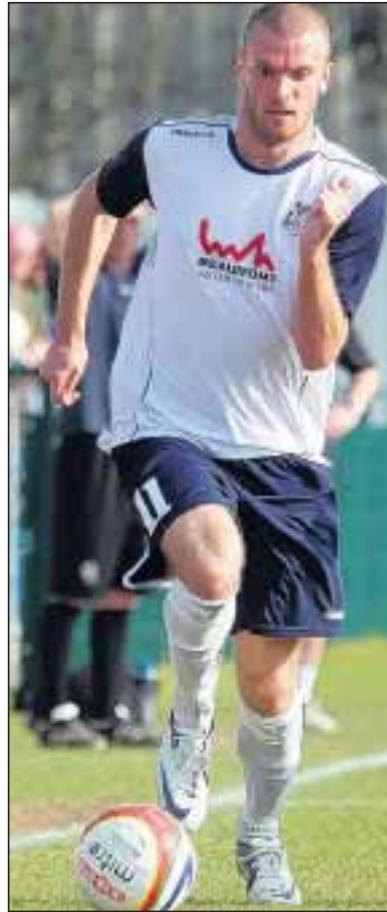
Students can enrol for NVQs in coaching and sports development. And, in addition to their academic studies, they will receive two hours' football coaching a day from FA Level 3 coaches and play for the development centre in the English Colleges FA League on Wednesday afternoons. There will also be opportunities to play for youth and reserve teams in the area.

Gosport's development centre can also offer traineeships in BTEC Level 2 Sports Diplomas, BTEC Level 3 Performance & Excellence in Sport and Level 3 Sports Science.

For further information ring Tony Stares on 02392 177715 or email him at aasportse-ducoaching2012@gmail.com

Cherries in action
AFC BOURNEMOUTH have finalised their pre-season schedule by adding friendly fixtures against non-League duo New Milton Town and Winchester City.

The League One outfit will begin their warm-up campaign against the Linnets at Fawcett's Field on Wednesday, July 18 (7.45pm). They will then visit Southern League new boys Winchester City on Saturday, July 28 (3.00).



STAYING PUT: Mike Gosney.

STAR MIKE SET TO STAY WITH STAGS

WING wizard Mike Gosney will again be weaving his magic for AFC Totton in the Evo-Stik Southern Premier Division next term.

When the Stags lost manager Stuart Ritchie to Havant & Waterlooville at the end of last season, rumours were rife that Gosney would follow his old boy to Westleigh Park in pursuit of Conference South football, writes WENDY GEE.

But, according to the Stags' acting chairman Paul Wallace, pictured right, the club have received "no official approaches whatsoever" for their set-piece specialist who is under contract at the Testwood Stadium until May 2013.

Gosney enjoyed another prolific season for Totton last term, weighing in with 23 league and cup goals following promotion from Division One South & West.

But it was a case of what might have been for the highly-prized wideman who missed the last month of the campaign with a foot injury and could only watch on in frustration as the Stags lost out to Oxford City in the Premier Division play-off final.

Totton, though, are confident Gosney will again be running defences ragged under the new leadership of former Bashley boss Steve Riley.

"Mike is under contract and he's staying," confirmed Wallace. "Steve (Riley) had a meeting with him last week, with myself and (fixtures secretary) John Heskins, and Mike was at our first pre-season

training session on Tuesday.

"He was also one of the players who came along to our successful forum evening when the new management team was introduced to the fans."

Right-back Ryan Hill also attended pre-season training this week, suggesting he will be staying with the club, but the Stags have still to settle the futures of defender Ian Richardson and long-serving frontman Mark Osman.

"Rico is out of contract and we haven't confirmed yet if he is staying or not," said Wallace.

"As for Osey, he says he is going to retire, but we'll be talking to him in the next couple of weeks just to confirm things."

With Gareth Barfoot having returned to the Testwood ranks from Eastleigh, goalkeeper Grant Porter has reached the end of the road with Totton.

Having helped the Stags up as Southern One South & West champions in 2010/11,

Porter was in an out of the side last term, first losing his place to on-loan AFC Bournemouth keeper Dan Thomas and then to James Bittner from Forest Green Rovers.

Southampton-based Porter – formerly of Salisbury City and Gosport Borough – was himself sent out on loan to Swindon Supermarine towards the end of the campaign.

Wallace confirmed: "Grant's contract has expired and we have not renewed it. We've signed Gareth Barfoot and have young Ross Casey too."



MORE NON-LEAGUE COVERAGE - SEE PAGES 14-17

Non-league Football

Non-league News

Rogers heads west
FORMER Eastleigh duo Scott Rogers and Lee Phillips will be playing for Chippenham Town in the Evo-Stik Southern Premier Division next season.

Bristol-born midfielder Rogers, pictured below, is heading west again following his release by the Spittires for whom he made 14 league and cup starts last season after joining them from Newport County last December.

The 32-year-old is joined at Hardenhuish Park by 31-year-old former Plymouth Argyle, Exeter City and Weymouth striker Phillips, who made three starts and four substitute appearances for the Spittires on loan from Bath City last term.

Chippenham boss Nathan Rudge has also signed forward Josh Egan from Bath City and England futsal captain and winger Luke Ballinger from Frome Town.

Tap keeps on running
FANS' favourite Paul Taplin has signed up for another season with Evo-Stik Southern One South & West outfit Thatcham Town.

The hard-working left-back, pictured, is the Berkshire club's longest-serving player. He has had two spells at

Waterside Park – either side of playing for Andy Leader at Winchester City.

Scott aims to be great
BASINGSTOKE footballer Scott Rendell is targeting promotion from the Blue Square Bet Premier after signing for Luton Town.

The former Cambridge United, Crawley and Peterborough striker, who grew up in north Hampshire, has moved to Kenilworth Road from Wycombe Wanderers after the Bedfordshire club paid an undisclosed fee for his services.

"I expect myself to be in the top three goalscorers in this league," said Rendell, 25, who began his career at Reading."



Michael Green

He has had two spells at

Waterside Park – either side of playing for Andy Leader at Winchester City.

Scott Rendell

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"I expect myself to be in the top three goalscorers in this league," said Rendell, 25, who began his career at Reading."



HANDS OFF!

Kemp will fight off interest in Priory youngsters

CHRISTCHURCH boss Graham Kemp says he doesn't want his young players being "a pay day" for other clubs.

Having fended off interest from Poole Town in 17-year-old wide-man/forward Harry Cornick, Kemp's advice to rival clubs is to "sort out your own youth policy rather than cherry-pick ours all the time," writes WENDY GEE.

Cornick has yet to make a Sydenhams Wessex start for Priory, but featured in ten games off the bench last term.

His potential was quickly spotted by Tom Killick, manager of Southern One South & West playoff finalists Poole, who was keen to take him to Tatnall.

But the youngster has opted to take Kemp's advice and continue his footballing education at Hurn Bridge.

"Me and Tom had a bit of a difference of opinion on this, but Harry's

'I don't want young players leaving us too early if they're not going to play'

not good enough yet for the Southern League," said Kemp, pictured below.

"I don't want Poole just sticking him on the bench and throwing him on for a couple of games hoping he'll get noticed by a bigger club as a money-making exercise.

"I'd like him to excel for us first and then join a bigger club as a ready-made player.

"Poole will be going for the league and he won't get in their side – he plays in the same position as Carl Preston for heaven's sake!"

"It's pointless them taking him halfway round the country just to get a few minutes here and there.

"Harry has got potential and people will keep an eye on him. But, with the best will in the world, he's not ready yet. I don't want him used as a cheap sub away to Taunton on a Tuesday night.

"It would take an exceptional 17-year-old to go straight in at that level, not necessar-



SUCCESS: Former Christchurch player Michael Green.

ily ability-wise but physically."

As if to prove his point, Kemp has welcomed back young central midfielder Marcus Cullen from Poole's divisional rivals Wimborne.

"Marcus was a youth player for us last year, he went to Wimborne, got promised the earth and only made a handful of appearances off the bench," he said.

"It's not a knock at other clubs. I'd willingly wave these youngsters off with a packed lunch if I knew they'd get games.

"But I don't want young players leaving us too early if they're not going to play."

"Our youth team is well run and we've got a lot of good products coming through."

"Last year eight of our first-team starting eleven were products of the youth team, but even I'm a bit reluctant to bring too many young lads in because I really want the club to push on from finishing third last season."

"But the pressure's not the same here as it is at Poole. I could play Harry Cornick in 20 games next

Christchurch "have set youth standards"

HAVING seen home-grown Christchurch talent like Michael Green (formerly Port Vale) and Ben Dickenson (Brighton & Hove Albion) progress to the Football League, Graham Kemp is rightly proud of the Dorset club's thriving youth production line.

"We, along with Sholing, have set the standards in that respect," said the Priory boss.

"It's noticeable that a lot of other clubs are starting to sort their youth teams out now, but we've got a five-year jump on them and have shown the way forward. With money the way it is these days, it's obviously the way to go."

"We try and look after our lads, with kit and everything supplied, and it's nice if, having brought them through, we get the reward of a year or two out of them."

"Other clubs should concentrate on getting their own youth policy sorted rather than cherry-picking ours."

Ian Proctor, the man in charge of Christchurch's successful under-18 youth team last season, will step up to manage Priory's reserves.

Proctor and his assistant John Cullen take over from departed duo Robbie Elliott and Ryan Chard who led Priory's second string to sixth spot in the inaugural Wyvern Combination League Premier Division.

Under Proctor and Cullen's guidance, Priory's under-18s won the Hampshire Youth League Division One last season and it is hoped that many of that squad will make the transition to the next level.

Next season's under-18s will be managed by George Gunn, assisted by Jordi Frewin.

"Both are young players who have been involved with the club over a number of years and are hoping to build upon the rich history the club has of developing and progressing young players," said a Priory statement.

season, lose 15 and still keep my job, whereas Tom (Killick) is going for promotion."

Kemp has added one new player to the Christchurch ranks, signing defender Dan Newman from Sydenhams Premier rivals Bemerton Heath Harlequins.

The centre-back boasts a decent Wessex pedigree, having captained Downton to the Division One title two seasons ago.

He is seen as the ideal replacement for Shaun Brian, who left Priory to join Wimborne midway through last term.



Non-league Football

Watts leaves Boatmen after contract request denied

Wendy Gee

wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

DAVE Diaper says 20-year-old winger Nick Watts wanted too many guarantees to remain a Sholing player.

Watts, who began his career as a trainee at Portsmouth, has left the Boatmen after almost three seasons to join newly promoted Sydenhams Premier champions Winchester City.

"Nick wanted a contract and I couldn't offer him one this year," manager/vice-chairman Diaper explained.

"He'd be the first to admit that last year wasn't one of his better seasons."

"He injured his ankle and never really recovered from it."

"We had a chat about next season, he wanted a contract and Winchester were prepared to give him one. It's just one of those things."

"Nick also wanted to play every week and no manager can guarantee that. If you play well in pre-season, you keep the shirt, it's as simple as that."

WAGE STRUCTURE

With Sholing needing to keep expenditure down, Diaper is determined not to break the existing wage structure as the club seek to make it fourth time lucky in their Southern One South & West promotion quest.

He spoke to GE Hamble marksman Ashley Jarvis, but couldn't agree terms, and drew a blank too with Hamble's gifted winger Rory Williams who couldn't fully commit to Southern League football because of his job.

"We're not blessed with a huge amount of money to spend, but we're hoping to generate more as the season goes on," said Diaper.

"We've got a new chairman (Sean Whelan) and executive management board sorting things out and we'll be trying to create more income."

Rather than bring in big, established names this summer, Diaper has signed four young players with potential.

Ben Wilson and Ben Chambers have signed from Eastleigh, goalkeeper Matt Brown has returned from Romsey Town and Diaper will be running the rule over Isle of Wight defender Scott Sampson who endured an injury-cursed stay with AFC Totton last term.



SHOLING EXIT: Nick Watts' right, has joined Winchester City.

WINGMAN WANTED TOO MANY GUARANTEES TO STAY - DIAPER

Left-back Wilson, 18, made three starts and two substitute appearances for Eastleigh in the Blue Square Bet South. But, with the Spitfires busily recruiting established names for a major title push, he recently turned down the offer of a contract.

Chambers, a striker, featured twice off the bench in cup competitions for Ian Baird's men and was originally targeted by Sholing midway through last season. The Boatman, however, had put their interest on hold while he recovered from an injury.

Brown, who was previously with Sholing as an 18-year-old, was outstanding for Romsey, helping them to an eighth-placed finish in the Sydenhams Premier.

He made 38 Wessex appearances for the Bypass boys and new-installed Romsey boss Danny Barker recently described him as

the best keeper in that division.

"Matt was with us before he went to university and came back last pre-season, but we had quite a few keepers on our books," explained Sholing manager Dave Diaper. "But I've got a lot of time for Matt and, at 22, we could get at least another ten years out of him."

FOURTH SIGNING

Diaper knows a lot less about his fourth signing Scott Sampson, having only seen him play once for the Isle of Wight in last year's Island Games final.

But the 23-year-old comes highly recommended, having captained AFC Bournemouth's reserves.

Following his release from Cherries, he joined the Marines and was signed by Totton last season following Sydenhams Wessex spells with Newport IoW and Blackfield & Langley.

He impressed former Totton boss Stuart Ritchie in six league starts and would have had more but for two untimely injuries.

First he broke a toe, sidelining him for a month, and then he twisted his ankle playing for Newport IoW in February, ruling him out for the rest of the season.

"Scott didn't enjoy the best of footballing times at Totton, but we've signed him on and offered him an opportunity to see what he can do in the friendlies," said Diaper.

"The new signings are all young lads and I'm mindful of the fact that we need to freshen up a bit. We've been in the play-offs three times but haven't managed to go that extra step."

"We've got some good friendlies coming up - including Saints under-21s (home, July 10, 7.30pm) - and everyone will get an opportunity."

Non-league News

Magic signing ...

HORNDEN have added goalscoring wizard Harry Potter to their ranks for the new Sydenhams Premier season.

Potter joins the Deans from Puma Engineering Hampshire Premier League side Locks Heath, for whom he found the net 12 times last term.

The move marks his second spell with Horndean, having scored some vital goals in the club's Hampshire Cup run a few seasons ago before leaving to join Clanfield.

Meanwhile Joe Albertella and Danny Bean have taken over as joint managers of Horndean's reserve team.

The Deans' second string play in Division One East of the Wyvern Combination League and will be looking to build on their sixth-placed finish last season.

Competition hots up

TOM Jeffes believes increased competition for places will improve Wimborne Town's goalscoring potency next season. The Magpies scored just 50 goals in the Southern One South & West last term, but Jeffes reckons the summer capture of Steve Smith from local rivals Poole Town will keep everyone on their toes.



"I'm relishing the competition for places as it will make me try harder," said the 26-year-old striker, pictured, who first arrived at Cuthbury on loan from Poole last term before pledging himself to the Magpies cause.

"If you have one poor game you know you might be out of the side for the next couple of weeks."

"We have a good squad so everyone will have to keep on working hard to keep their places."

Pete's derbies delight

WARMINSTER Town chairman Pete Russell is looking forward to a fresh start for the team next season after they were accepted back into the Toolstation Western League.

The Wiltshire club, who have played in the Sydenhams Wessex Division One since 2007, can now look forward to derbies against Bradford, Calne, Corsham, Devizes and Westbury.

"I think it's a good move for us and I'm definitely looking forward to next season," said Russell.



UGO-ing nowhere! Defender stays with Salisbury

UGO Udoji has agreed to remain at Salisbury City next season after joining the Whites towards the end of the 2011/12 campaign.

The talented defender, pictured left, previously trained at the Glenn Hoddle Academy and had spells at Portsmouth and Bishops Stortford before

helping the Whites to a strong Blue Square Bet South finish.

Whites boss Darrell Clarke said: "Ugo did well for us last season, despite only playing for a short spell. I'm really pleased he's decided to stay with us."

"It gives us competition for places at the back which

helps keep the boys on top form."

Salisbury are due to report back for pre-season training on Monday (July 2) and expect to have several new faces on board.

"I've got a lot of players coming in on trial, including some released from League

clubs," Clarke explained. "I'm still speaking to a lot of players."

"We've had a busy summer so far and it'll be even busier in July as I'd still like to add another five or six players to improve the squad."

"Midfield and attacking options are a priority."

EMAIL PRE-SEASON FIXTURES TO echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

Non-league Football

PRE-SEASON FRIENDLIES

Saturday, July 7: AFC Stoneham v Fleet Town (3.00), Blackfield & Langley v Hythe & Dibden (3.00), Frimley Green v Alresford Town, Sporting BW v Fareham Town (on 3G pitch at Wide Lane, Eastleigh, 3.00), US Portsmouth v GE Hamble (3.00), Winchester City v Havant & Waterlooville (3.00).

Tuesday, July 10: AFC Stoneham v Romsey Town (6.30), Blackfield & Langley v AFC Totton (7.45), Brockenhurst v Alresford Town, Devizes v Downton, Hamworthy Utd v Salisbury City, Sholing v SAINTS U21s (7.30), Totton & Eling v Sporting BW (at Wellow).

Wednesday, July 11: Sherborne Town v Bournemouth Poppies, Winchester City v Salisbury City (7.45).

Thursday, July 12: Moneyfields Res v Fareham Town Res (6.30).

Friday, July 13: AFC Stoneham v Horndean Res (7.15), Basingstoke Town v Aldershot Town (7.00), Totton & Eling v Brockenhurst (at Wellow), Whitchurch Utd v Fawley AFC.

Saturday, July 14: Markus Liebher Memorial at St Mary's – Saints, Arsenal and Anderlecht, Alton Town v Aldershot Town, Bashley v Blackfield & Langley (3.00), Cowes Sports v GE Hamble XI, Havant & Waterlooville v Portsmouth (3.00), QK Southampton v Fareham Town (3.00), Ringwood v GE Hamble XI, Winchester v Romsey Town, US Portsmouth v Totton (double fixture, 12.30 and 2.30), Winchester City v Gosport Borough (3pm).

Tuesday, July 17: Blackfield & Langley v AFC Stoneham, Brockenhurst v GE Hamble (7.45), Horndean v Gosport Borough (7.30), Frome Town v Salisbury City (7.45), Romsey Town v Sholing XI (7.45), Winchester Castle v Alresford Town (6.30), Winchester City v SAINTS U21s.

Wednesday, July 18: Downton v Amesbury.

Thursday, July 19: Christchurch v Sholing (7.45), Poole Town v Eastleigh (7.45), Sporting BW v Romsey Town (6.30), Whitchurch Utd v Thatcham Town (Dango Tournament at Andover New Street).

Friday, July 20: Hamworthy Utd v Sherborne, Horndean v Eastleigh XI (7.30).

Saturday, July 21: AFC Portchester v Poole Town (3.00), AFC Totton v Farnborough (3.00), Alton Town v Wantage (3.00), Arlesey Town v Salisbury City (3.00), Basingstoke Town v Reading XI (3.00), Blackfield & Langley v East Preston (double header, kick-offs to be advised), Brockenhurst v Wembly (3.00), Chichester City v GE Hamble, Evin Thonon Gaillard v SAINTS (Stade Joseph-Moynat, 7.00 local), Fleet Town v Bashley (3.00), Gillingham Town v Alresford Town, Hamworthy Utd v Badshot Lea, New Milton Town v AFC Bournemouth XI (3.00), Poole Town v Christchurch (3.00), QK Southampton v Fawley AFC, Shepton Mallet v Totton & Eling, Sutton United v Eastleigh (3pm).

Tuesday, July 24: AFC Portchester v Gosport Borough, Alton Town v Bracknell, Brackley Town v Salisbury City (7.45), Brockenhurst v Lympington Town, Colden Common v Whitchurch Utd, Eastleigh v Crewe Alexandra (7.45), GE Hamble v Sholing (7.45), Pagham v Fareham Town (7.45), Ringwood Town v Romsey Town, Wantage Town v Alresford Town (7.45), Winchester City v Basingstoke Town (7.45).

Thursday, July 26: Colden Common v Romsey Town (6.30).

Friday, July 27: AFC Totton v Basingstoke Town (7.45), Bemerton HH v Frome Town, Fawley AFC v Tedley Calleva, GE Hamble v Gosport Borough XI.

Saturday, July 28: Blackfield & Langley v Sholing XI (3.00), Calne Town v Fareham Town (3.00), Chichester City v Alresford Town (3.00), Fareham Town v Camberley Town (3.00), Hamworthy Utd v Hanwell Town, New Milton Town v Portlant Rovers (2.30), Poole Borough v Totton & Eling, North Leigh v Eastleigh (3.00), SAINTS v Ajax (3.00), Salisbury City v Reading (3.00), Whitchurch Utd v Abingdon, Winchester City v AFC Bournemouth XI (3.00).

Monday, July 30: AFC Portchester v Pagham, Downton v Eastleigh XI, Fawley AFC v Brockenhurst.

Tuesday, July 31: Basingstoke Town v AFC Bournemouth (7.45), Downton v Whitchurch Utd, GE Hamble v Colden Common, Poole Town v Salisbury City (7.45), Sholing v Eastleigh (7.45).

Wednesday, August 1: Havant & Waterlooville v AFC Bournemouth (7.45), New Milton Town Res v AFC Bournemouth U18 Academy (7.00).

Friday, August 3: Fleet Town v Eastleigh XI, Salisbury City v Swindon Town (7.45).

Saturday, August 4: Basingstoke Town v Brentford (3.00), SAINTS v Wolves (3.00), Wimborne Town v AFC Totton (3.00), Winchester City v Eastleigh (3.00).

Tuesday, August 7: AFC Totton v Salisbury City (7.30), Bristol City v SAINTS (7.45), Eastleigh v Oxford Utd (7.45), Havant & Waterlooville v Gosport Borough (7.45).

Saturday, August 11: Chippenham Town v Basingstoke Town (3.00), Eastleigh v Reading XI (3.00), Fleet Town v AFC Totton (3.00), Gosport Borough v Sholing (3.00), SAINTS v Udinese (12.00), Salisbury City v Portsmouth (3.00), Winchester City v Andover Lions (3.00).

● To publicise pre-season friendlies email details to echosport@dailyecho.co.uk.

Moss puts down roots at Havant

HAVANT & Waterlooville is like a home from home for Ryan Moss following his switch from AFC Totton.

The 25-year-old striker has signed a one-year contract for the Hawks where he has linked up again with former Totton boss Stuart Ritchie and H&W vice-chairman Jim Fallon, who had a spell as Totton's main sponsor.

"I like to feel comfortable at a club and I found that at Totton," said Moss.

"It's nice to work with similar minded people around you and I felt this (joining Havant) was the best move for me

knowing the guys behind the scenes here.

"Havant & Waterlooville have always come across as a big club, but have lacked something recently and other clubs have seen them as something of a soft side. But this is a great club with great facilities and I'm looking forward to looking up the table."

Moss, who started life with AFC Bournemouth, has a proven scoring record at Southern Premier level and above. He made 181 appearances for H&W's Blue Square Bet South rivals Dorchester Town, scoring 47 goals, and

found the net 42 times in 98 games for Bashley.

He added nine more goals to his tally in 17 league and cup appearances in a three-month spell with Totton last term.

Havant, meanwhile, have categorically denied allegations by former Carshalton Athletic midfielder Tom Davis that Fallon offered him 'under the table' cash to sign for the club.

The Hawks have taken on former FA compliance officer Graham Bean to represent and assist them should the FA wish to investigate the matter.

ONE-YEAR DEAL: Ryan Moss.

I'M READY TO DON BOOTS AGAIN – HUSSEY

Wendy Gee

wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

STUART Hussey is keen to get back into football – ideally as a manager with his older brother Matt.

But if there is no suitable job available, the 31-year-old striker, who was on the books of Derby, Portsmouth and Bristol City in his youth, would consider donning his boots again.

When his playing career was cut short by a knee injury, Hussey and brother Matt went into management, starting out with Hamble ASSC Reserves before moving on to Hamble Club and Winchester City.

They spent the first half of last season in charge of Lympington Town but have been out of football since stepping away from the Sydenhams Premier club in December.

"After leaving Lympington we've had a bit of time out, but we're keen to stay involved," said the younger Hussey.

"We had three or four job offers after the season finished, but they

were all very similar roles to Winchester and Lympington, taking over either a struggling or mid-table club which needed the squad rebuilding.

"A role like that would be very much standing still with no real reward other than to leave the club in a good position in or around mid-table as we did with Winchester and Lympington.

"The top clubs in the Wessex League are all settled managerially so, unless something comes up from the league above, it looks as though we'll have to bide our time. It doesn't look as if we'll be starting next season as managers."

Playing, though, remains a real possibility for the former

Totton, Bashley and Lympington & New Milton frontman, who was inspired by seeing veteran ex-Saint Dave Puckett roll back the years playing for Lympington Town last term.

"I've lost a fair bit of weight and had physio on my knee and if the right offer came up – and I don't nec-

essarily mean financially – I might play again this year," he said.

"I'm never going to play 40 games a season, but I feel I've got a lot of experience to offer in and around the changing room – especially after seeing what a good job Dave (Puckett) did for Lympington last year at the age of 51!"

"I couldn't play any higher than the Wessex due to work commitments, but I'd be happy to speak to people regarding the playing side."

Midfielder/defender Matt (pictured left), the older of the Hussey brothers, also had a few run-outs for Lympington last term and would be happy to play again.

"Matt's the same as me, he wants to stay involved and has played a few ex-Saints charity games," said Hussey.

"We'll see what comes our way."

"But if a playing opportunity did come up, it definitely wouldn't be with the intention of stepping on anyone's toes or trying to take the manager's job."

"It's purely a case of enjoying the banter and wanting to be part of football in some way."

● Stuart Hussey can be contacted on 07837 065207.

PLAYING RETURN?
Stuart Hussey.

Non-league Football

GYM FIXES IT FOR McMANUS

QK Southampton boss lured to Winchester by familiar face

Wendy Gee

wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

AFTER three successful years in charge of QK Southampton, Patrick McManus has been appointed reserve team boss of Southern League new boys Winchester City.

McManus goes back a long way with Winchester owner Paul McCarthy, having trained in the same Forest Edge gym as the former Southern Area super-middleweight boxing champion.

"I never boxed myself, but I did boxing training and first met Paul when I was 14 years old," McManus recalled.

"When I left QK, I didn't have the Wyvern Combination in my mind, but Paul has sold Winchester to me.

"He initially offered me something first-team related involving scouting and recruitment, but that's not me – I'm all about the football."

Having played for AFC Totton and BAT in the early 1990s, McManus, pictured below, became player-manager of Brendon and, later, Nursling who he led to the Southampton Premier Division title for three out five seasons.

That success landed him the QK job in the Puma Engineering Hampshire Premier League where he embarked on a three-year plan to lead the club into the Sydenhams Wessex League.

But, despite finishing runners-up to Liphook in the PEHPL Senior Division last term, QK's hoped-for rise to Sydenhams One failed to materialise for ground grading reasons.

"During my time at QK we finished third, fourth and runners-up and got to a Southampton Senior Cup final," said McManus. "I did say that, if for any reason the club failed to get promoted having finished where we said we'd finish, I would step down. I gave them notice back in March that I didn't want to manage for another Hampshire Premier season."

"I said when I went to QK that I would do three years and they've

Scott quits Stags for rivals



RYAN Scott has left AFC Totton to join their new Evo-Stik Southern Premier rivals Gosport Borough.

The 25-year-old former Aldershot and Farnborough midfielder, pictured, missed a large chunk of last season with injury problems, making just 15 league and cup appearances.

But he returned to feature in the Stags' 4-2 play-off final defeat at Oxford City and his combative style and higher league experience will appeal to

Gosport boss Alex Pike, who led his side to South & West play-off glory last term.

Pike has also signed former Andover, Sholing and Thatcham midfielder Dean Stow from Hungerford Town.

Next on his shopping list is a frontman to replace play-off final hero Steve Claridge.

The former Football League striker-turned-TV pundit is hanging up his boots at the age of 46.

had three years of consistent success. I was all geared up to go onwards and upwards and I didn't fancy the status quo any more."

Romsey-based McManus has much to be proud of from his QK days.

"It's the most successful period they've had," he said. "And one of the chaps I signed, Ben Penfold, is QK's record goalscorer going back about 40 years.

"Ben's 32 now and Winchester would not be his type of challenge. I think he'll stay at QK. But

there are some younger lads who need a different challenge.

"These lads are capable of playing Wessex Premier and the challenge now is to skip that and push for a Southern League place through the reserves.

"My brief is to bring a first-team mentality to reserve team football at Winchester so that the transition is fluid. We don't want first team players coming down and getting no benefit from playing reserve team football.

"If Winchester can achieve what Paul is looking to achieve, the club's got a good future. The aspiration is to go one better than Sholing in the Southern League. That's the benchmark."

Welcoming McManus to the

Winchester "firm", McCarthy said: "I've known Patrick a long, long time and we head-hunted him to a certain extent after the success he had coaching at QK. He's positive and honest and he wants to progress the reserves as soon as possible.

"He will work with Guy Butters and Martin Beck on the management team.

"We will keep last season's reserve team managers, Darryl Jones and Dave Pearce, in the structure too, possibly working with Conor McCarthy and Rory Anderson running the under-18s and under-16s.

"Conor and Rory are both first team players and they're also FA Level 2 coaches. It's great they get involved with the youth side and believe in the club."

Non-league News

It's tough to sign players – Killick

POOLE Town are finding it tough to compete with higher-level clubs after missing out on three top transfer targets.

Manager Tom Killick, pictured below, revealed the Dolphins had been turned down by AFC Totton's Nathaniel Sherborne and Carl Pettefer this summer – plus Richard Gillespie who opted to join Totton when his Eastleigh contract expired.

Killick is aiming to boost his Dolphins squad after narrowly missing out on promotion last season, losing to Gosport Borough in the Evo-Stik South & West play-off final.

But prolific striker Sherborne and midfielder/skipper Pettefer have agreed new contracts with Southern Premier outfit Totton, while Gillespie chose to link up again with his old Bashley boss Steve Riley who has replaced Stuart Ritchie at the Testwood Stadium.

"Nathaniel had offers from Dorchester, Totton, Gosport and Winchester City, so I think this is an example of what we are up against," said Killick.

"Other than Winchester, all the other clubs are at a higher level and this is what we are finding."



The Main attraction

THE 2012/13 Puma Engineering Hampshire Premier League season kicks off on Saturday, August 11 with a full programme of Senior Division matches.

Pick of the opening day's fixtures pits Colden Common at home to Paulsgrove.

When the teams met at Main Road towards the end of last season, they fought out an amazing 5-5 draw with Steve Ledger scoring a hat-trick for the Portsmouth visitors.

Champions Liphook United are at home to AFC Aldermaston, while runners-up QK Southampton have a tricky looking game at home to Sporting Bishops Waltham.

Last year's top two are scheduled to meet at Liphook on September 1.

Meanwhile the league has nominated its top four clubs from 2011/12 – Liphook, QK Southampton, Locks Heath and AFC Stoneham – to participate in next season's Russell Cotes Cup.

They will be looking to build on the success of last season when PEHPL sides took some notable scalps. Liphook made it through to the semi-finals, taking Christchurch to penalties.

PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE
Opening day's fixtures – Saturday, August 11
Senior Division: AFC Stoneham v Clanfield, Colden Common v Paulsgrove, Fleetlands v Overton Utd, Hamble Club v Otterbourne, Liphook Utd v AFC Aldermaston, Liss Athletic v Locks Heath, QK Southampton v Sporting Bishops Waltham, University of Portsmouth v Bournemouth Sports, Winchester Castle v Hedge End Rangers.
Combination Division: Clanfield Res v Locks Heath Res, Paulsgrove Res v Bournemouth Sports Res, Sporting Bishops Waltham Res v Liphook Utd Res.



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Focus On: L-carnitine

One of the amino acids (the building blocks of proteins), L-carnitine plays an important role in helping body cells use fat for energy.

L-carnitine is classed as a 'non-essential' amino acid, which means that the body can synthesise it from other amino acids if necessary. This doesn't mean that it isn't useful though! Diets high in L-carnitine can help with weight loss in animals, as it promotes the use of fat stores for energy. This also helps to preserve muscle mass and, because muscles use energy, further encourage weight loss. It is also useful for highly active animals and during breeding.

L-carnitine is incorporated in Royal Canin diets formulated to help support healthy weight loss, or maintain bodyweight in pets prone to weight gain, helping to encourage fat metabolism and support lean muscle mass.

Nutrition for Neutered Cats

Royal Canin were the first to recognise that neutered cats could benefit from a special diet. Adapted formulas with a reduced energy content, along with high protein levels and L carnitine to help preserve muscle mass, will help to maintain a cat's healthy pre-neutering body weight. In addition, special fibres can help cats feel fuller so they are less likely to return to their bowl so frequently. Diet can be adapted to help support the neutered cat's delicate urinary health too.

Today, Royal Canin offer the most comprehensive choice of lifestage nutrition for neutered cats, with their Veterinary Care Nutrition range within veterinary practices and Sterilised range within specialist pet retailers.



FAQs:

• How do I know if my dog or cat is overweight?

Unless you know precisely what your pet should weigh, the best way is to use a technique known as Body Condition Scoring - an assessment of body shape made by look and feel. Your vet or nurse will be able to explain how to do it, or you can find more information on the Royal Canin website. Weigh your pet regularly too so that you know what is normal for them.

• How do I know how much to feed my pet?

Follow the feeding guideline on the back of the pack and regularly monitor your pet's weight and condition. Adjust the daily ration as necessary to ensure body condition is maintained and contact your vet if you are concerned.

• Can I give my pet milk? Although at birth a kitten/puppy's digestion is suited to their mother's milk, they soon lose the ability to digest lactose (the sugar in milk). It is therefore not recommended to give milk to your pet, as it may cause a digestive upset.



IMAGE: By Yves Lanceau

Neutering your cat could double its life expectancy

Over 90% of UK cats are neutered, but while responsible owners often opt to neuter for convenience, they may not realise the many other benefits.¹ So vet Gudi Stuttard explains why neutering is so widely recommended, what it involves and some important considerations afterwards.

Routine neutering has a number of important benefits, not least in helping to reduce numbers of unwanted kittens. Cats are surprisingly adept at breeding. On reaching sexual maturity, often as early as 5 months old, they will make every effort to seek out a mate. Even if kept indoors they can be expert at escaping and will happily mate with siblings. In addition, the mating process is highly efficient - a female cat will only ovulate once she is mated so timing is always spot on and pregnancy will usually result.

So owners of female kittens and cats are frequently taken by surprise. However, for every pregnant cat there will be a litter of kittens, and it is down to the owner to ensure that each goes to a responsible home. While rescue centres are unfortunately full of kittens and cats in desperate need of loving homes, an unneutered female cat could go on to have 2 or even 3 litters per year.

Of course, some owners make an informed decision to breed their cats, particularly if they are pedigree, and so choose not to neuter. However, this decision should be taken responsibly, committing to all the veterinary care that may be required and ensuring that loving homes can be found for all the kittens. The important thing to remember, contrary to the old myth, is that

cats do not need to have a litter before they are neutered.

However, many owners don't realise that neutering will also significantly benefit a cat's health. Neutered cats wander and stray less, and so are less likely to be injured on the road. Wounds and abscesses caused by fighting with other cats are a very common problem in entire cats but are much less likely in neutered cats.

Importantly, neutered cats are at a much lower risk of contracting infectious diseases such as Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (for which there is no vaccine available) and Feline Leukaemia Virus. Both viruses are spread through close contact and fighting and are extremely prevalent in unneutered cats.

For female cats, spaying removes the risk of infections or tumours of the uterus. If testicles are retained in the abdomen in male cats they are at a high risk of developing tumours so castration is always advised in this case.

These health benefits are certainly not to be sniffed at as they mean that, on average, a neutered cat will live twice as long as an unneutered cat.²

In addition to the health issues, living with an unneutered cat is simply not fun. Female cats come into season regularly, calling and attracting any unneutered males in the nearby environment. Entire male cats will stray regularly and display highly territorial behaviour, such as spraying urine within the home. Neutering tends to result in a calmer, more affectionate cat that is much easier to live with.

Cats are usually neutered any time from 5 or 6 months of age.

The procedure is known as a spay in female cats and castration in male cats and is carried out surgically under general anaesthetic by a vet. In female cats, the uterus and both ovaries are removed through an incision in the abdomen, while in males, both testicles are removed, usually through small incisions in the scrotum. Neutering is a relatively short procedure and cats usually recover very well within a few hours. In most cases cats go home at the end of the day, although sometimes an overnight stay is necessary.

Due to the recognised benefits, neutering is widely recommended for any cats not intended for breeding. However, it does result in some physiological changes which must be considered and addressed. Within 48 hours of neutering, a cat will increase food intake by around 30%, as it is less able to regulate its hunger. At the same time, its daily energy requirements actually reduce, so obesity is a real risk if the cat's diet is not adapted straight away.

Opting for a diet specifically formulated for neutered cats helps to control bodyweight after the procedure. In addition, daily rations should be strictly observed, rather than simply topping up the bowl each time it is empty. Bodyweight and condition

should be regularly assessed, with rations adjusted in response, and exercise should be encouraged through play activity.

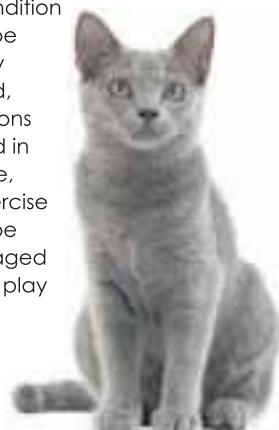


IMAGE: By Jean-Michel Labat

For more information about neutering, please contact your vet.

1. Murray JK, Roberts MA, Whitmarsh A, Gruffydd-Jones TJ. Survey of the characteristics of cats owned by households in the UK and factors affecting their neutered status. *Vet Rec.* 2009 Jan 31;164(5):137-41.
2. Kraft W. Geriatrics in canine and feline internal medicine. *Eur J med Res.* 1009, Vol 3, 31, 41

Winchester area schools Personal Bests



Pic order no: 14632504



Pic order no: 14632414

Queue up to chip in

SCORES of children took to the greens to try their arm at golf.

More than 200 youngsters from across Hampshire teed up at Cams Hall Estate Golf Club, to take part in a Tri Golf Festival, a mini version of the sport which involves the use of specially adapted equipment and a variety of mini games.

The festival formed part of World Sports Day, which saw a host of events take place across the UK.



Pic order no: 14632393



Pic order no: 14632447



WEEKE PRIMARY SCHOOL, WINCHESTER PUPILS

Pic no:14643272



STANMORE SCHOOL, WEEKE



HIGH FLYING: Pupils from Winnall School taking part in a jumping challenge, below and above.

Pics: 14642947 (above); 14642903 (below)



THE University of Winchester's stadium at Bar End was the venue for **of the Personal Bests Sports Event** week.

It was the culmination of a project over two thousand children from over 40 schools from Winchester and the surrounding area.

This year was also the third year of the Personal Bests programme.

In the first year 90 pupils competed and nearly 1,000 took part.

The Personal Bests scheme runs over three terms – autumn, winter and summer – and a child competes each time in six activities to improve on their own personal achievement.

Every child has their own individual book and all the schools were invited to this week's final.

The six events were Chest Push, Target Throw, Shuttle Run, Speed Standing Long Jump and Hop & Skip. Peter Symonds College's Community Sports department were involved in recording children's Bests attempts in the run up to the final.

They worked with groups of 15-16 aged children from South Wonston, Western, Harestock, Shepherds Dell and Winnall Primary Schools.

Lynne Holmes, co-ordinator of the Leaders Awards at Peter Symonds, said: "It was a great event for our students to be part of."

"They are encouraging each child to better their own previous PB results."

SAD TIMES FOR A ONCE PRIDE

Local sports finals 2012, University sports stadium



WINCHESTER, PUPILS

Pic order no: 14643020



ST BEDES SCHOOL, WINCHESTER, PUPILS

Pic order no: 14643342



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SPARSHOLT SCHOOL PUPILS

Pic order no: 14643091



THROWING EXPERTISE: Sparsholt School pupils.



Pics: 14642855 (left), 14642833.

Pic no:
14642568Pic no:
14642632

SPRINTERS: St Bedes School pupils.

TWITTER has been working overload in the wake of Stuart Pearce's shock exclusion of David Beckham from the Team GB football side for the London 2012 Olympics this summer.

Here, Tom Crocker lists just a few of the many tweets ...

Gary Lineker – "Terrible shame for Beckham having given so much to the Olympic bid. Would love him on our BBC Sport team for #London2012

There are arguments for and against DB selection. What I don't understand though, is why string him along by including him in a short list?"

Former Wales midfielder **Robbie Savage** – "Stuart Pearce does make some stupid decisions, ie Parker captain of England and no Beckham in GB team, clueless!

Stuart Pearce likes to be controversial, his managerial record is poor, no wonder with the decisions he makes!"

Ex-Man Utd and Newcastle winger **Keith Gillespie** – "David Beckham is one of the greatest ambassadors for sport England has ever had. Pearce's snub is ridiculous and disrespectful."

Ex-Saints defender **Chris Perry** – "This Beckham decision is being blown out of all proportion. Don't think you could play both Giggs and Beckham, Pearce went for Giggs."

Former Saints keeper **Neil Moss** – "David Beckham English legend! We know how to treat our role models in this country!!!! I for one won't watch team GB football! Disgrace"



DAVID BECKHAM

Sam Hoskins, Saints striker – "So poor that Beckham isn't in the Olympic team, half the reason I would watch is so I could watch him! ?"

Meanwhile former Saints manager **Harry Redknapp** also made his feelings public – "There is no doubt Stuart will have upset a few in high places. They would have loved to see Becks in there. I am surprised and sad that he isn't. Stuart can kiss goodbye to a knighthood but credit for being brave."

Becks' omission also provided a Twitter talking point for a host of well-known names outside of football.

James Corden, actor and comedian – "To ask David Beckham to give everything to winning the Olympics for London and then not picking him to take part is so disrespectful."

TV presenter **Lorraine Kelly** – "It's a pretty poor show David Beckham won't be in the Olympic football team – very petty. He would attract the crowds – and he deserves it."

Former England cricketer **Ronnie Irani** – "What an absolute disgrace David Beckham not selected for Olympic Football Team. He is one of the main reasons we have the Olympics."

Six time golf major winner **Sir Nick Faldo** – "WHAT no Beckham!!! Big Ben, Tower Bridge, St Pauls, London Eye....David Beckham #nationalattractions!"

England rugby star **Danny Cipriani** – "Disappointed to see Stuart Pearce trying to make a name for himself... Should of picked Beckham! Still class, helped get the Olympics! #poor

Journalist and presenter **Piers Morgan** – "Oh no! Stuart Pearce chose the best GB Olympic football team on merit, not celebrity status. How shameful! #Beckham

Unlike most of you, I've watched LA Galaxy live in MLS. It's glorified pub football. Even I'd get a game.

PROUD LOCAL CRICKET CLUB - TURN TO PAGE 34



LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS COUNTDOWN



Your top Olympic moment

SIR Steve Redgrave winning his fifth consecutive Olympic rowing gold medal has been named the most memorable Olympic moment.

The feat, achieved at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, was named as the top Olympic moment by 40% of people, ahead of the 27% who opted for decathlete Daley Thompson's world record win at the 1984 Los Angeles games to clinch his second Olympic title.

Jamaican sprint champion Usain Bolt's world record-breaking show at the 2008 Beijing Olympics came third in the poll of 1,060 people. It was carried out for the newly-launched London 2012 - The Official Video Game of The Olympic Games.

The top 10 Olympic moments

1 Steve Redgrave at the Sydney 2000 Olympics - Redgrave claims a fifth gold at consecutive Olympic games.

2 Daley Thompson at the Los Angeles 1984 Olympics - Sets decathlon world record, wins gold and celebrates with back flip.

3 Usain Bolt at the Beijing 2008 Olympics - Breaking world records in the 100m and 200m sprint double.

4 Coe v Ovett at the Moscow 1980 Olympics - Ovett took gold in the 800m, Coe took the 1500m.



5 Kelly Holmes, pictured above, at the Athens 2004 Olympics - Holmes wins gold in 800m and 1500m.

6 Mark Spitz at the Munich 1972 - Winning seven swimming gold medals.

7 Chris Hoy at the Beijing 2008 Olympics - Winning three gold medals.

8 Michael Johnson at the Atlanta 1996 Olympics - Johnson wins gold and shatters the 200m world record then takes the 400m gold too.

9 Derek Redmond at the Barcelona 1992 Olympics - Helped by his father, Redmond finishes the race in tears after breaking down with injury.

10 Cathy Freeman at the Sydney 2000 Olympics - Freeman, dressed in a full body suit, wins 400m gold in her home Olympic games.

Sir Steve's superb

HE is Great Britain's greatest Olympian.

Sir Steve Redgrave competed in five Games, from 1984 through to 2000, and won a gold in rowing in all of them.

He also won nine World Championship rowing golds, and three more in the Commonwealth Games.

Redgrave remains one of only four athletes in history to have won medals at five different Olympics.

Though since long retired from his sport, Redgrave still has close links with the Games, and was part of the successful GB party that won the bid to bring the sporting extravaganza to these shores.

As the countdown to the London 2012 Games gathers pace, Redgrave recalled his Olympic glory days and the role he has played in the current event.

You've competed in a number of Olympic Games. What were your memories of the first time you travelled to Los Angeles?

SSR: I hadn't done a great deal of travelling beforehand, just a few international regattas within Europe with the World Championships tending to be in Europe most years.

So, the first time I actually went to America was for the Olympics.

We became favourites to win about six, seven weeks beforehand, and so being selected to go to your first Olympics, favourites to win, and then going to Los Angeles and Hollywood and the razzmatazz of the whole Games, was very special indeed.

What were your memories of the athletes' villages?

SSR: Each village has a slightly different design with different cultures from the different countries that they're hosting.

But basically the villages are cramming in something like 10,000 athletes and looking after them for the two or three weeks.

Some athletes will stay for the whole four weeks that the village is open.

The eating halls are just absolutely massive, there's food 24 hours a day and that's one of the things that takes you by surprise in some ways, because normally, when you go to international regattas or World Championships, you stay in a hotel.

A lot of boredom is that you tend to sit in the catering halls for a bit longer than you should do, and end up eating more than you



LEGEND: Sir Steve Redgrave poses with a gigantic coin bearing his image during the launch of an Olympic Legends collection. The Olympic site, above.

You may be in a hotel just as your team, or there may be one or two other teams in the same hotel as well, and there tends to be set eating times and that whole process.

But at the Games, if you want to go and eat because of boredom or anything like that, you can do.

Actually that can be one of the downsides, because you are waiting around, your training has tapered down, you've got time on your hands.

A lot of boredom is that you tend to sit in the catering halls for a bit longer than you should do, and end up eating more than you

should.

So, you've got to be pretty disciplined of what you're going to eat from that point of view.

But rowing is pretty lucky in that it's in the first week of the Games, so you can be really single-minded and sort of hide yourself away in your own little bubble.

Then, once the rowing is all finished, we've got the joy of going around and watching the other sports compete, as well as letting our hair down and having a little bit of fun.

There's an unwritten code of conduct within the Games that that doesn't actually happen in the village itself.

The swimmers tend to finish before most other sports because their individual discipline is over in one day, or they have heats on one day and the final the next day and then they find all the good places to go and party.

And so, when the rowing finishes we go and find the swimmers because they've always found the good parties by then.

Which is the favourite Olympic Games that you've taken part in?

SSR: It's really difficult. I won a gold at every Games I went to, so there isn't one that I sort of think 'oh that's not so good

because I didn't do very well'.

But, in some ways, they have their own character, and it's not just about that day, it's about the whole process and a build-up to that over the four years.

I'm a father of three and if you said 'which is your favourite child', it's really difficult to answer.

Politically you're supposed to say they're all the same and all have an even footing, but they all behave differently at different times.

And it's their own personality that comes out of that, and in some ways that's what the Olympics is about.



LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS COUNTDOWN



QUOTES of the week

"Supporters deserve a new beginning and have to accept the fact that their club has to start from the lower league, keeping order in the SPL and without creating unfair competition with other clubs" - Hearts owner Vladimir Romanov on his plans to vote against the Rangers newco being allowed to play in the Scottish Premier League.

"I've always said Ferrari is a great team with a great history, and with a great tradition in Formula One in particular" - Formula One world champion Sebastian Vettel, below, talks about Ferrari after being linked with a move to the Italian manufacturer.



"As a youngster when I was living in Denmark we used to watch English football on television every Saturday afternoon. I always thought there was something special about the atmosphere in English football" - Michael Laudrup on the day he was appointed manager of Swansea, which is in Wales.

"I've dreamt about winning grand slams. I've woken up and thought I'd won a grand slam but I don't even know which one it was" - Andy Murray on his hopes of breaking his duck at Wimbledon.

"I have never said that we will win the tournament because, if I had said that, I might have been carted off" - Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon, below, explains his low-key approach before Euro 2012.



"What I did on 18 was pretty pathetic. Pretty easy drive for me and fanned it out to the right. Pretty poor second shot, pretty poor bunker shot and even worse putt" - Charley Hoffman offers a frank assessment of his closing bogey after finishing one shot off the lead at the Travelers Championship. He had also doubled-bogeyed the 17th after finding water off the tee.

"That felt great. They put whipped cream instead of shaving cream so that was nice" - Jim Thome of the Philadelphia Phillies, after taking a cream pie in the face from teammate Shane Victorino during the celebrations of his winning home run against the Tampa Bay Rays.

Why we are leaving

From Page 23

of peoples of lives, and then you're really talking of a huge human legacy programme left over from 2012.

It's probably the biggest programme that we have been involved with.

East London has undergone a huge transformation since London won. Have you visited the site in recent weeks?

SSR: Until recently, the last time I visited the Olympic Park was November when I saw the aquatic centre, which was absolutely stunning.

I've gone from being on the Board of 2012 Limited for the bid process, and people jotting down sketches of what a stadium may look like, to visiting the aquatic centre.

It has two big wings on the side to add greater seating area, which will be taken down after the Games and made more into an intimate area.

Because, again, you don't want an 18,000 swimming arena for people training and it's not very personal from that point of view and not very motivating.

To see that for the first time was really very impressive. I was very proud of being British, and having a little bit of involvement in it, within that bid process.

I was in the stadium recently and it's the first time I've seen it for two and a half years.

I was there the week before the lights got hoisted up and connected.

Now the track is down with green grass in the middle and the seating area completed and it is very, very impressive indeed.

The sporting legacy that's obviously going to be left over from that point of view is immense.

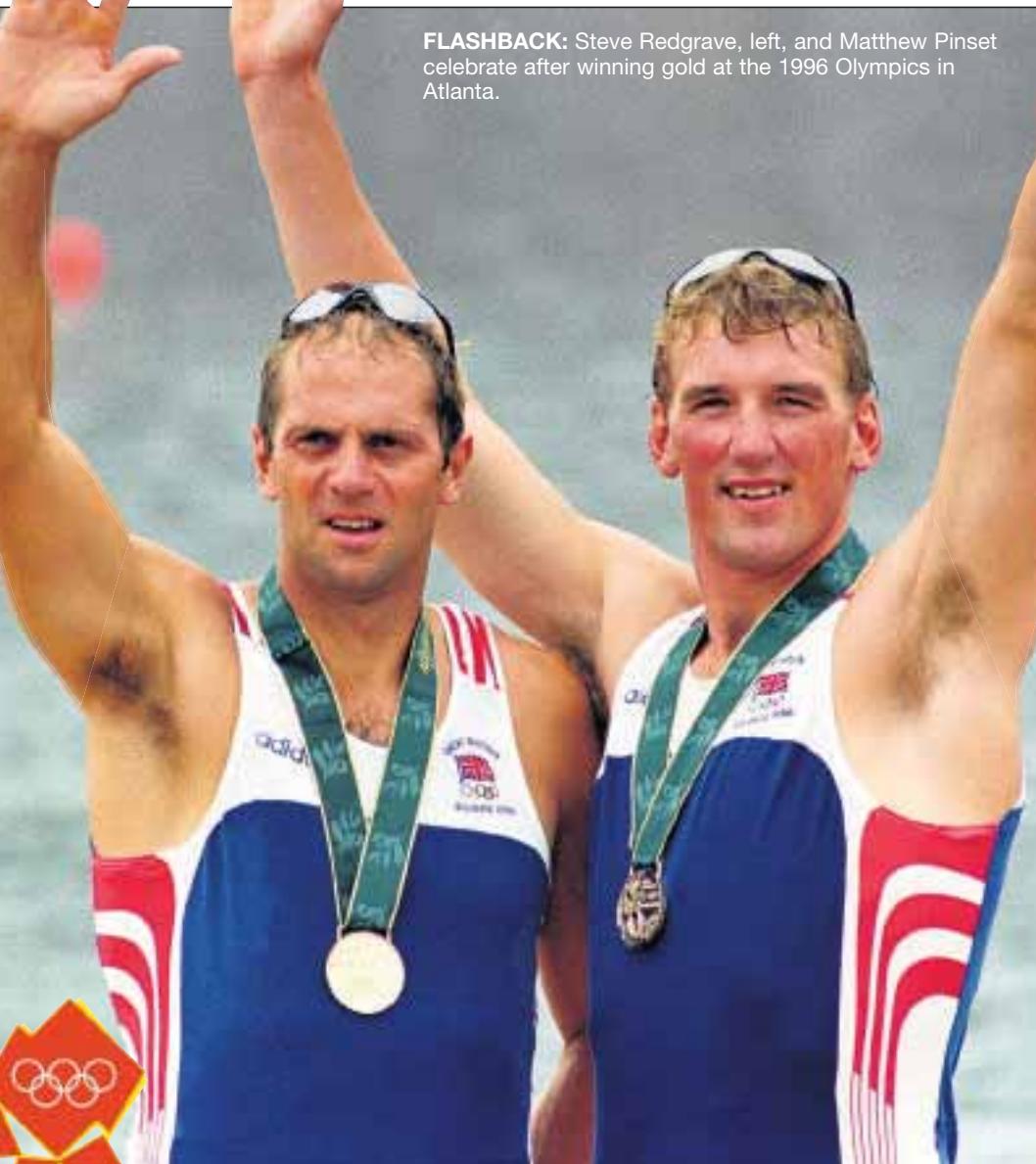
But the infrastructure of change as well is the new shopping centre as well. It has really changed the whole site from where it was before, it's a huge boost for the economy of that area.

What are you looking forward to most during London 2012?

SSR: All of it.

The Olympic torch is when the country really galvanises and gets behind the Games. It is literally a countdown day by day as the torch goes around the country.

I'll be helping the BBC with their commentary for the eight days of the rowing.



FLASHBACK: Steve Redgrave, left, and Matthew Pinsent celebrate after winning gold at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

London 2012



There's a few people there that I really want to see win gold, and we've got a very, very strong team.

There are 14 events, we've qualified for 13 and ten of them won medals at the last World Championships.

It could be our most successful Olympic rowing team ever.

That goes back to 1908, when our previous strongest team won eight medals, so hopefully we can beat that with a high percentage of being gold.

I'm an ambassador for Team GB as well, so I have

my media pass and my team GB pass, so I can get to see lots of events.

One of my jobs as an Ambassador is looking after some of the VIP guests, which means I've got to take them round watching sport. That's going to be really difficult for me, a lot of fun!

Probably the best venue is track cycling. It's an amazing atmosphere, they organise the sport really well, put on a really good programme. It's one of our strongest sports as well.

Do you think the Team GB rowing squads need to step up a level or do you think they're already at a

high enough level to be competing for gold?

SSR: The last Games we won two golds, two silvers, two bronze. The Games before that we won one gold, two silvers. The Games that I was involved with before that was two golds, one silver. The Games before that was one gold, one bronze.

1984 was the first time that we won a gold since 1948.

As I said, this team will produce more medals than probably any other rowing team in its British history.

Are there any sports stars, other than perhaps the obvious Usain Bolt and suchlike, that you're

really looking forward to seeing?

SSR: One of the joys about the Olympic Games is that, because there are 26 different sports, you don't really know who's going to be the one that's going to capture the imagination of the public around the world.

When you're involved in the football World Cup or rugby World Cup or major sporting events, we know all our squad almost to a person, so there aren't really any surprises.

But at the Olympic Games, because there are so many athletes involved, so many countries, so many opportunities to shine, there will be

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE OLYMPICS IN THE ECHO AND PINK



LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS COUNTDOWN



a superb legacy ...

POSSIBLY THE BEST EVER: Steve Redgrave believes the 2012 Olympics can give GB their best rowing medal total of all time.



outstanding athletes that will be the face of the Games, but we don't know who they will beforehand.

It may be Usain Bolt again, as he was four years ago, or Michael Phelps, beating the record of my hero Mark Spitz, when Mark won seven gold medals, and Michael won eight last time.

There's so many things like that happening on a day-to-day basis, it's one of the joys of the Olympics.

At the Olympics, there is something going on from first thing in the morning until very late at night every day and some world class performances, with world class athletes, for 17 days.

That's what makes the Olympics so special.

What captured your imagination about Mark and how did he become your hero?

SSR: In Munich, I was ten, and it was really my first experience of the Olympic Games even though I wasn't there, I was watching it on TV, and reading about it in the papers.

Mark, by doing so many different events, day after day, was adding to his story.

Somebody can have outstanding performance in one event and then never be seen again.

Mark was getting those

outstanding performances, winning a gold medal, and then coming back the next day and winning another one, so it made the story bigger and bigger as the event went on.

People don't realise he broke the World record in every event that he won.

You're one of the newest World Sports Academy members with Laureus. How have you found being involved with such a huge organisation?

SSR: It's very special to be involved, obviously I know a lot of the characters because the Board is made up of the world's best athletes from

their different sports, from years gone by.

To be asked to be involved is pretty special.

The drive, the vision, that Edwin (Moses) sets up as Chairman, really makes the difference.

We're trying to improve people's lives around the world who are in difficult situations.

Changing people's lives through sport is something we're all very passionate about.

We all have slightly different views, because of where we've come from in the



What's left for you in terms of ambitions?

SSR: Who knows really?

I was looking forward to retirement when I finished in 2000 after Sydney, and having a little bit more time on my hands, maybe playing a little bit more golf, but I'm playing less golf now than when I was an athlete.

Once the Games are out the way, perhaps my life may settle down a little bit more.

I'm more determined to be involved in Laureus. Up until now it's been pretty difficult because of 2012.

I'm not quite sure of what my long term challenges and goals will be.

I'm still helping other people achieve their dreams.

Sir Steve Redgrave was speaking to Laureus.com

QUOTES of the week

"We put a lot of expectations on him. When he missed the first two games we were all believing that what we needed to do was get to the third game and Wayne Rooney will win us the championships. That maybe was too much to ask of him" - **Roy Hodgson** assesses the performance of Wayne Rooney at Euro 2012.

"We are concerned at the reports regarding allegations of abuse aimed at England players Ashley Cole and Ashley Young on Twitter" - **The FA** released a statement on reported abuse of the two England players who missed penalties during the Euro 2012 quarter-final defeat to Italy.

"I was stupid and that what happens when you do dumb things. I am confident I'll bounce back. Cannot wait" - **Joey Barton** after he was fined six weeks wages and stripped of the captaincy following his sending-off against Manchester City on the final day of last season.



"Cream always floats to the top and this club will come back and it will come back at the top - make no mistake" - **Rangers chief executive Charles Green** after it emerged the SPL clubs were unlikely to allow the newco into the league.

"If there is anyone interested in buying the Bulls then we need to hear from them right now because this famous club is now on the brink of extinction" - **Brendan Guilfoyle** after placing Bradford Bulls into administration.

"A lot of people in athletics make it sound as if they are living a hard life, as if they have to go to the coal mines in Azerbaijan every morning or maybe have to work for the Daily Mail every day. That's what I call tough. We are doing sport, something fun. Sometimes athletes and coaches forget that" - **UK Athletics head coach Charles van Commenee** dismisses concerns about teenage sprinter Adam Gemili competing in the London Olympics.

"After seeing the latest game, I think Rooney only understands Scottish. That's because he only plays well in Manchester, where Sir Alex Ferguson speaks Scottish" - **Fabio Capello** delivers a damning assessment of Wayne Rooney's performances for England.

"Naturally I am very disappointed, but there will be no bigger supporter of the team than me. And like everyone, I will be hoping they can win the gold" - **David Beckham** on being omitted from the Great Britain Olympic football squad.

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EVEN torrential overnight downpours failed to dampen the success of Romsey Town Youth FC's 28th six-a-side tournament.

The event, which took place at The Mountbatten School, Romsey, brought in around 130 teams.

But the second day's play was almost cancelled as club secretary Clare Crossland explained:

"We got lucky with the weather because after the heavy rain on Saturday night there were fears we would have to pull it on the Sunday, but it turned out alright in the end."

She added: "The event went off really smoothly. We ran an under-7s tournament again and that went really well."



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Hampshire Cricket Spotlight

Morgan: My big t20 worry

EOIN Morgan has warned world champions England risk being left behind in Twenty20 cricket unless there is a radical overhaul of the domestic Friends Life competition.

Although England introduced Twenty20 cricket to the world, Morgan believes the county tournament has now fallen a long way behind the Indian Premier League and Australia's Big Bash.

England's highly regarded limited overs batsman has reignited the debate over city-based franchises by calling for a new streamlined elite competition.

The original franchise proposal, first tabled in 2008, featured nine teams based in nine cities, featuring marquee English players and the best from around the world.

It was an idea which certainly appealed to Hampshire chairman Rod Bransgrove.

"A new audience is not being brought in by Test, county or 40-over cricket," he said.

"An English Premier League (EPL) tournament could be played when kids are on holiday, and when big overseas players come over. It could be played over three or four weeks."

The counties, though, rejected that idea.

Fast forward a few years, however, and the English t20 currently taking place is lacking in terms of stellar names.

Hampshire's Shahid Afridi is one of the most high profile names that have been brought in, but box office stars such as Chris Gayle, Keiron Pollard and Shane Watson – all off whom are IPL regulars – are otherwise engaged.

As a result, Morgan insists the time has come for English cricket to be bold and think outside the box again.

"I certainly think (the Friends Life) is so far behind

Cont on page 34

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE:
Simon Katich has already qualified with the Perch Scorchers.



APRIL

12-15 Gloucestershire, home, LVCC
Gloucs 314 (D Balcombe 8-71) & 174 (D Balcombe 3-48, H Riazuddin 3-51), Hampshire 199 (S Katich 74) & 256 (M Bates 87, C Wood 65). Hampshire lost by 33 runs.

19-22 Glamorgan, SWALEC, LVCC – Glamorgan 103-9 dec (D Balcombe 5-33) & 256 (H Riazuddin 5-61), Hampshire 156 (L Dawson 32) & 204-8 (S Ervine 75, J Vince 28). Hampshire won by 2 wickets.

26-29 Leicestershire, h, LVCC – Leics 234 (L Dawson 5-29), Hampshire 217-4 (M Carberry 84no, S Katich 54, S Ervine 41no). Drawn

2-5 Northants, Northampton, LVCC

HAMPSHIRE CRICKET FIXTURES 2012

Northants 218 (C Wood 4-52) & 232-9 (C Wood 3-58, D Balcombe 3-70), Hampshire 154 (J Vince 46no) & 178 (M Carberry 61). Hampshire lost by 117 runs.

7 Glamorgan, h, CB40 Glamorgan 173-7 (K Ali 3-44), Hampshire 151-2 (J Vince 83, M Carberry 60). Hampshire won on DL Method.

9-12 Derbyshire, h, LVCC Hampshire 352-8 dec (J Adams 122, B Shafayat 93), Derbyshire 403-9 dec (K Ali 3-60, J Tomlinson 3-101). Drawn

16-19 Yorkshire, Headingly, LVCC Hampshire 427 (S Katich 196, M Bates 103, S Ervine 44) & 191-2 dec (S Katich 61no, M Carberry 61no, J

Adams 49), Yorkshire 399-9 dec (L Dawson 3-61). Drawn

20 Scotland, Uddingston, CB40 Hampshire 220 (M Carberry 76), Scotland 131 (K Ali 2-17, D Briggs 2-31). Hampshire won by 89 runs.

23-26 Glamorgan, h, LVCC Hampshire 316 (S Ervine 109, J Adams 42, M Bates 41) & 273 (J Adams 72, J Vince 48), Glamorgan 327 (D Balcombe 4-91) & 231 (K Ali 3-42, J Tomlinson 3-45). Hampshire won by 31 runs.

27 Somerset, Taunton, CB40 Somerset 212-9, Hampshire 216-1 (M Carberry 103no, J Adams 56, J Vince 44no). Hampshire won by 9 wickets.

31 Nottinghamshire (F), h, CB40 Notts 277-4, Hampshire 265 (S Ervine

68, M Carberry 54, J Adams 51, D Mascarenhas 48). Hampshire lost by 12 runs.

31 Surrey, KIA Oval, CB40 Surrey 76-1, match abandoned.

4 Scotland, h, CB40 Scotland 230-9 (D Briggs 3-35), Hampshire 234-4 (M Carberry 148no). Hampshire won by 6 wickets.

6-9 Kent, Tunbridge Wells, LVCC Hampshire 303-8 (L Dawson 134no, S Katich 54), Kent 220-6. Drawn

14 Sussex, Hove, FLT20 Abandoned, no result

19 Middlesex (F), h, FLT20 Hampshire 157-6 (J Vince 64no), Middlesex 161-4. Hampshire lost by 6

wkts.

22 Kent, h, FLT20 Kent 151-5, Hampshire 148-6. Hampshire lost by 3 runs.

24 Kent, Canterbury, FLT20 Kent 135-6, Hampshire 138-4 (G Maxwell 66no). Hampshire won by 6 wickets.

27 Middlesex, Richmond, FLT20 Middlesex 156-2, Hampshire 160-6 (S Ervine 75no, S Katich 40). Hampshire won by 4 wkts.

29 Essex, Chelmsford, FLT20 30 Surrey, h, FLT20

2 Surrey, a, FLT20 6 Sussex (F), h, FLT20 8 Essex (F), h, FLT20 11-14 Yorkshire, h, LVCC 15 Durham, h, CB40

Simon Walter

simon.walter@dailyecho.co.uk

CRICKET REPORTER

great but if not I'll keep training hard," he said before last night's trip to Chelmsford to play Essex.

"I'm enjoying playing with the boys whether it's in four-day, CB40 or this."

Katich's experience could be vital in helping Hampshire qualify from the South Group. The Royals won their two previous t20 games at Richmond, chasing down 175 in 2005 and defending 133-8 in 2008.

But the chase was in the balance after Middlesex made 156-2.

"You never know what a decent total is on a club ground and we had to scrap hard with bat, ball and in the field," Katich said.

"If we're being really harsh we could have restricted them to 140-odd. There were things we didn't quite get right, like conceding wides, but that's Twenty20 cricket – people were under pressure."

"It was a pretty good effort to chase those runs down. As we've seen, you have to get in front of the rate during the first six [powerplay overs] because spin on wickets that hold a bit can slow the run rate down in the middle overs, like we did to them."

"We pegged them back with our spinners doing a good job. But thankfully we carried the momentum through those overs and had a good partnership."

Katich helped Sean Ervine put on 69 from 49 balls after they came together in the sixth and final powerplay over.

"Once Sean got going I was happy to play second fiddle and keep the scoring going as quickly as possible," Katich said.

With Hampshire batting further down than they did at the start of the tournament, they were well on course when Katich drove to long off. "Unfortunately I got a bit carried away and wasn't there to finish the job off," he smiled.

Kat back in style ... after nine years!

SIMON Katich shone in his first Twenty20 appearance for Hampshire since the format's inaugural season in 2003.

Hampshire's most experienced overseas player showed why it must have been a difficult decision to leave him out of the Royals' first few South Group games by filling in for Michael Carberry so impressively against Middlesex at Richmond on Wednesday evening.

Nine years ago, the Twenty20 Cup was little more than a hit-and-giggle concept.

No-one predicted it would become the dominating format of the game.

Now in its tenth season, it is hard to imagine a cricket season without it.

Katich has not stood still either, developing into a very fine player in the shortest format over the last decade, leading New South Wales to the T20 Champions League three years ago.

He will also be at this year's Champions League, no matter how well Hampshire do, after helping the Perth Scorchers reach the KFC Big Bash final in January.

But he was still surplus to requirements when Giles White picked his side for Hampshire's first few t20 games.

No matter. Ever the professional, he stepped in with impressive ease when called upon due to Carberry's knee injury, sustained during net practice on the eve of the game.

In the continued absence of Shahid Afridi, Katich was able to fill the second overseas role alongside Glenn Maxwell.

He responded with a composed 40 from only 26 balls, a significant factor in Hampshire chasing down their 157-run target to win by four wickets, with four balls to spare.

"If I get another game that'll be

17 Notts (F), Trent Bridge, CB40 19-22 Essex, Chelmsford, LVCC 24/25 FLT20 quarter-finals 27-30 Kent, h, LVCC

AUGUST

6-9 Gloucestershire, Bristol, LVCC 10 Glamorgan (F), SWALEC, CB40 14 Somerset (F), h, CB40 15-18 Northamptonshire, h, LVCC 19 Surrey, h, CB40 21-24 Leics, Grace Road, LVCC 24/25 FLT20 semi-finals/finals 27 Durham, Chester-le-Street, CB40

SEPTEMBER

4-7 Essex, h, LVCC 11-14 Derbyshire, Derby, LVCC 15 CB40 final, Lords

KEY: LVCC (LV County Championship division two), CB40 (Clydesdale Bank40), FLT20 (Friends Life t20), F (floodlit)

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight

SO DESTRUCTIVE

Glenn can win
Aussie call up

Simon Walter

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CRICKET REPORTER

IF Glenn Maxwell produces more performances like his Canterbury heroics, he will soon be playing for Australia.

That is the view of Simon Katich following Maxwell's performances with bat and ball over the last week.

Maxwell's astonishing innings at Kent last Sunday, an unbeaten 66 from only 32 balls, has been the catalyst for Hampshire's recent revival.

His half-century came from only 22 deliveries, the fastest by a Hampshire player in the shortest format since Nic Pothas's 25-baller against Essex at Chelmsford two years ago.

Although he was out for a single against Middlesex at Richmond on Wednesday, Maxwell's performance with the ball - a spell of 4-1-18-0 - was instrumental in keeping the hosts in check at Old Deer Park.

Former Australia star Katich - who played 45 ODIs and three Twenty20 internationals as well as 56 Tests - believes Maxwell could soon be challenging for a place in his country's limited-overs sides.

Who knows, injuries to Australia's ODI squad could see Maxwell win a call-up.

Katich was not at Canterbury but is sure Maxwell's innings would not have gone unnoticed by his fellow countrymen.

"Unfortunately I wasn't there to see it - apparently it was quite a drama field! - but hopefully we'll see more of that," said the 36-year-old.

"It just showed what a great player he can be at this level. He's so destructive!

"He's great in the field and he's also great with the ball. The job he did at Richmond was outstanding."

Maxwell told the Daily Echo this week that he came over to England with the intention of improving his off-spin in club cricket with South Wilts CC.

His batting has already impressed back in Australia, where his 19-ball fifty for Victoria against Tasmania last year is the fastest in the history of domestic cricket Down Under.

"He's played a bit for the Vics in the last year or so and there's no doubt he's got potential," said Katich.



PIC: LMI PHOTOGRAPHY



Cricket Stats

GLENN Maxwell rewrote the Hampshire record books in only his third innings for the county, **writes JACK CLARKE**.

The Australian blasted the quickest ever half-century for the Royals in t20 history to help his new side beat Kent at Canterbury.

Maxwell reached his 50 off just 22 balls, with three fours and five sixes.

The previous fastest was Nic Pothas' 25-ball half century against Essex at Chelmsford two years ago.

There have been three quicker 50s scored against Hampshire, however.

Steven Davies (Surrey) and Tim Southee (Essex) blitzed 18 and 19-ball half-centuries respectively in 2010 and 2011.

But the holder of the fastest half-century in English t20 history is Somerset's Marcus Trescothick, who hammered a 13-ball 50 against Hampshire in 2010.

Trescothick struck five sixes and five fours, reaching his half-century in boundaries alone on the batsman's paradise which is Taunton's County Ground.

Last weekend's stunning performance was not even Maxwell's fastest t20 half-century, though.

Back in February 2011 he announced himself to the Australian public with a 19-ball 50 playing for Victoria against Tasmania.

That set a new record as the fastest half-century in Australian state domestic cricket.

The fastest half-century in t20 history took just 12 balls to compile.

That was struck by Yuvram Singh playing for India against England in September 2007.

Singh went from 14 to 50 in the space of six balls when he struck six successive sixes off Stuart Broad.

Hampshire's top ten quickest 50s

1. Glenn Maxwell, 22 balls, v Kent, Canterbury, June 2012
2. Nic Pothas, 25 balls, v Essex, Chelmsford, July 2010
3. Neil McKenzie, 27 balls, v Surrey, The Oval, June 2010
4. Shahid Afridi, 28 balls, v Somerset, Edgbaston, August 2011
5. Michael Lumb, 29 balls, v Somerset, The Ageas Bowl, June 2011
6. Jimmy Adams, 29 balls, v Middlesex, Uxbridge, July 2010
7. James Vince, 30 balls, v Gloucs, The Ageas Bowl, June 2010
8. Sean Ervine, 30 balls, v Somerset, Taunton, July 2010
9. Sean Ervine, 32 balls, v Surrey, The Ageas Bowl, June 2010
10. Neil McKenzie, 33 balls, v Gloucs, Gloucester, June 2011

Quickest 50s against Hampshire

1. Marcus Trescothick, 13 balls, for Somerset, Taunton, July 2010
2. Steven Davies, 18 balls, for Surrey, The Oval, June 2010
3. Tim Southee, 19 balls, for Essex, Chelmsford, June 2011
4. Murray Goodwin, 28 balls, for Sussex, Hove, June 2010
5. Brendon McCullum, 28 balls, for Sussex, Hove, June 2011

LOCAL CRICKET SPOTLIGHT APPEARS ON PAGES 36/37

Cont from Page 32

now that it has got to a stage where something needs to happen," Morgan said.

"I have been in Australia when the Big Bash has happened and seen the impact it has had.

"The IPL is a different scale. Every time I have gone to the IPL I have always come back a better player.

"I certainly believe something needs to happen. It doesn't have to be the exact same or similar but it has to work for what is best for English cricket.

"I see great young players coming through but if we had an infrastructure in place with eight or nine teams and some huge international stars then the likes of Alex Hales and Jonny Bairstow would have already rubbed shoulders and played against players like Muttiah Muralitharan or Jacques Kallis.

"They would not be thrown into a World Cup situation where they have to win a game for England and are unfamiliar with it.

"The benefits for the younger guys coming through would be huge.

"It is a great time to do something. IPL is in its fifth year now, Big Bash is going into its second year so it won't take much to catch up.

"It is needed, especially as we



EOIN MORGAN

are Twenty20 champions. "It is a great time to do something."

It was an enterprising move from the England and Wales Cricket Board to introduce Twenty20 to the county game in the first place in 2003, but their attempts to keep the format moving have been less successful.

The ECB's venture with Allen Stanford, now serving 110 years in an American prison after being convicted of fraud, turned very sour very quickly.

The franchise proposal written by David Stewart and Keith Bradshaw, who were then on the ECB management board, failed to win the backing of the county game.

Morgan accepts that position is unlikely to have changed but he points to the success of England's Test team as an example of what can be achieved if the structure is right.

"I can only encourage them (county officials)," said Morgan.

"I have no idea about the administrative side of things.

"I would like to see it happen.

"When I grew up training hard and working towards professional cricket, English cricket was always chasing Australia, who were number one for a long time.

"They had great skilled cricketers but number one they had the infrastructure.

"We have now overtaken that in the longer form of the game in producing Test match cricketers, which is great."

Local Cricket Spotlight

Eight teams have withdrawn in 2012

ORDNANCE Survey CC are the eighth team to withdraw from the Hampshire Cricket League this season.

But despite fears that OSCC's demise is a sign of the times, HCL chairman Jonathan Blake insists that club cricket is not declining.

He said: "It's a shame for Ordnance Survey because the club's been around a long time but I wouldn't say we're losing any more clubs than in previous years.

"A certain number of weaker clubs always drop out, but we're gaining teams. We started the sea-

son with 352 and although we now have 344 that still makes us bigger than we've been in previous years.

"There is not another league in the world as big as ours and there was a definite resurgence in numbers when England won the 2005 Ashes.

"The rain probably hasn't helped this year because players get out of the habit of playing every Saturday, but we had 12 new teams for this season which is about average."

These figures may be skewed by the fact that bigger clubs are cre-

IT was a shock for many when Ordnance Survey CC ended its 130-year innings this week.

Founded in 1882 by the Southampton-based mapmakers and founder members of the Hampshire Cricket League in 1973, OSCC has been on the recreational cricket map for many years, writes **JACK CLARKE AND SIMON WALTER.**

So to see that it has lost its way is very sad, particularly for players past and present, like ourselves.

The club has a rich history.

In recent years, OSCC have been playing their home games at Wide Lane, having previously hired Wellington Sports Ground on Stoneham Lane – one of the best squares in the county before it became Pompey's training base – for many seasons.

They are also one of the few clubs to have been able to call Northlands Road their home.

Thanks to the efforts of Colonel James Fellowes and particularly Sir Russell Bencraft – former Hampshire players who shared the post of honorary secretary in the late 19th century – OSCC were able to play at the old County Ground for many years.

Dr Bencraft was also president of Southampton St Mary's FC – the original 'Saints' – and turned out for Ordnance Survey CC many times when his Hampshire commitments allowed.

OSCC was also very successful during the immediate post-war years, winning the old County Ground KO three times and the AJ Day Shield seven times.

They also won numerous Southampton Evening League championships in the competition's 1950s hey-day.

The club has been grateful for the dedication and commitment of Alan George in more recent years.

Now 75, "Mr Ordnance Survey" has represented the club since 1959 as club captain, treasurer, secretary and chairman.

"Georgie" was devastated

FLASHBACK: Ordnance Survey take part in a Southampton League Cup final at Hoglands Park in the 1950s.



End of a proud era as Ordnance Survey pull out

by the decision to call time.

"Lack of recruitment in the Civil Service, the lack of a ground to call our own and the facilities to go with it have brought this once proud club to its knees," he said. "It's very sad."

Colin Hutton, who will continue to organise the club's annual tour to north Devon, is one of the club's longest serving members and captained "The Survey" for ten years.

"Players have work and

family commitments which unfortunately but fairly prioritise," he said. "We've had a great run and some great innings and maybe it is time for us to retire. But we or the league will not forget Ordnance Survey CC."

Jeremy Maskell was one of many former Ordnance Survey employees to have played for the Mapmakers over the years.

He described the news as "a massive disappoint-

ment".

"What made the club so unique was the fact that the cricket club was run via an international organisation, rather than a village or pub," he said.

OSCC has always benefited from Civil Service Sports Council grants but in recent years the relationship between Ordnance Survey and its cricket club has grown increasingly nominal.

Club secretary Jon Bance,

ating more teams, as opposed to new village clubs forming.

Regional Division One North outfit Sutton Scotney are the highest ranked side to withdraw from the Hampshire League this year, while OSCC's former RD2SE rivals Bosham have also pulled out after being moved to a council-owned ground.

"We'll probably lose one or two more but the bigger clubs in particular are often creating new teams because their facilities and coaching of young players is so good," Blake added.

CONTACT THE SPORTS DESK ON 02380 424515

Local Cricket Spotlight

Proudley in prime position

PAUL Proudley bowled himself into the Southern Electric Premier League top performers list with a career-best spell of 7-13 against Fair Oak last week and stands second in the Division 3 wicket-taking charts.

Tichborne Park leg spinner Ed Berry leads the way with 19 victims, while team-mate Tom Allam features in both batting and bowling charts.

Leading performers - ECB Premier Division Batting
Dave Taylor (Totton & Eling) 279, Oli Green (Academy) 252, Charlie Esson (St Cross Symondians) 224, Adam Hose (Ventnor) 218, Owen Alsop (South Wilts) 204, James Hayward (South Wilts) 197, Scott Myers (Alton) 196.

Bowling

Glenn Maxwell (South Wilts) 19, Owen Alsop (South Wilts) 17, Matt Perry-Lewis (St Cross Symondians) 16, Richard Hindley (Havant) 15, Tom Barber (Academy) 14.

Catches

Rob Gibson (Academy) 7, Richard Hindley (Havant) 5, Pete Popov (Havant) 5.

Wicketkeeping

Tom Morton (South Wilts) 13, Jez Bullied (Havant) 10, Lewis McManus (Academy) 10.

Division 2

Batting

Derek Kenway (Burridge) 299, Alex Styles (Burridge), Tristen McDonald (Rowledge) 219, Jonty Hadfield (Andover) 216, Jordon Silk (Burridge) 211, Rob Atkins (Hambledon) 210, Ryan Beck (New Milton) 199, Nick Willcock (Hook & NB) 194.

Bowling

Paul Ancell (Burridge) 15, Luke Graham (Andover) 14, Dan Hewitt (Hambledon) 14, Dan Loader (New Milton) 13.

Catches

Jonty Hadfield (Andover) 6, Tony Richman (Paultons) 5, Matt Love (Hook & NB) 5, Scott Dawes (Paultons) 5.

Wicketkeeping

Ross Hunter (Hook & NB) 9, Jamie Rood (Burridge) 8, Nick Scutt (Hambledon) 8.

Division 3

Batting

Peter Woodland (Liphook) 346, Damian Carson (US) 342, David Taylor (Totton) 330, Richard Partington (Gosport Boro) 273, Craig Renders (Langley Manor) 233, Andy Galliers (Havant) 231, Tom Allam (Tichborne Park) 230.

Bowling

Ed Berry (Tichborne Park) 19, Paul Proudley (Calmore) 18, Tom Allam (Tichborne Park) 17, Joe Lovett (Fair Oak) 16, Cody Henderson (US) 15.

Catches

Ed Primmer (Tichborne Park) 11, Ed Berry (TP) 8, Dominic Carson (US) 7.

Wicketkeeping

Nigel le Bas (Trojans) 10, Lee Carroll (US) 9, Dave Lyons (TP) 9, Darren Vann (Calmore) 8.



AMONG THE LEADERS: Totton & Eling II, who are in the thick of the Division 3 promotion race – (left-right) back: Dylan Augustus, Hakim Peruzi, Phil Cooper, Nick Jenkins, Dan Rides, Harry Henley-Smith. Front: Azeem Hamid, Tom Arnold, Josh Metcalfe, Adam Carty, Nick Edens.

Top nine counts in a Division 3 battle

WITH the season reaching its midway point today, the battle is on for clubs to achieve a top nine finish in Southern Electric Premier League, Division 3.

That's because the Premier League will operate with four divisions, each of ten teams, in 2013, with the existing 18-club Division 3 being split.

With Basingstoke & North Hants coming into the new set-up, SPL3 clubs have plenty to play for.

Liphook & Ripsley and Fawley are in pole position to secure automatic promotion into Division 2 next season.

But the likes of Hursley Park, Langley Manor, Tichborne Park and United Services – along with Totton & Eling seconds – probably won't be far

DIVISION 3 TABLE					
	P	W	L	BP	Ave
Liphook & R	7	6	1	54	126 18.00
Fawley	5	4	1	41	89 17.80
Totton & Eling II	8	6	2	63	135 16.88
United Services	7	5	2	57	117 16.71
Tichborne Park	7	5	2	55	115 16.43
Hursley Park	7	5	2	51	111 15.86
Langley Manor	6	4	2	46	94 15.67
Havant II	6	3	3	48	82 13.67
Trojans	7	4	3	46	94 13.43
Calmore Sports	6	3	3	38	74 12.33
Fair Oak*	6	3	3	44	82 12.00
South Wilts II	7	3	4	44	80 11.43
Portsmouth*	7	3	4	47	83 10.43
Bournemouth II*	7	3	4	45	81 8.71
Shrasholt	6	1	5	35	47 7.83
St Cross S II	6	1	5	35	47 7.83
Gosport	6	0	6	33	33 5.50
Easton & MW	7	0	7	19	19 2.71
*Pts deducted					

away when the split comes in September.

Liphook have points on the board and, with opener Peter Woodland going well, have won six of their seven games.

Fawley's second placement is all the more commendable taking into account that top order pair Andy Parratt and skipper Dave Streather are sidelined with long term knee injuries.

Evergreen Paul Marks is skippering the side and is anxious to build on a pleasing start of four wins in five.

Totton & Eling seconds are the surprise packages in SPL3 and sat proudly top of the log until Tichborne Park unseated them last week.

Josh Metcalfe is at the helm of an Eels side with spirit gushing from the dressing room. But even he is struggling to comprehend what went wrong against Tichborne when, having bowled the Park out for 125, Totton collapsed from 83-1 to 115 all out in a ten-run defeat.

United Services have a decent side under Lee Carroll and boast five wins out of seven, with the Carson brothers, Damian and Dominic having good seasons with the bat.

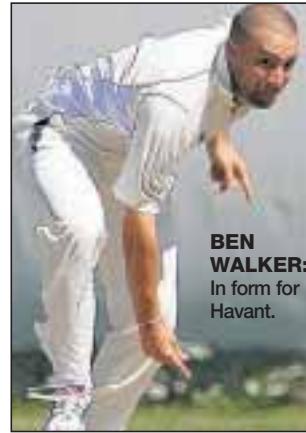
US will out-score most sides at Burnaby Road and will expect to be firmly in the mix at the end. Hursley Park are faltering after a five-match winning start and Oli Green expected his team to move on after beating Tichborne Park.

But it's not worked out that way, with successive defeats by Portsmouth and Liphook checking progress.

Today's meeting with Calmore Sports at The Quarters could be a pointer for the remainder of the season.

After losing their first two matches, Langley Manor are really putting things together – a fourth straight win being secured over Portsmouth at St Hellen's.

Graham Noble, Ali Cheyne and Steve Harris have all hit their straps, while Craig Renders has put himself in the frame for the Southern Electric PoM award after a series of fine performances.



BEN WALKER:
In form for Havant.

HAVANT bid to join South Wilts in the last 16 of the ECB Kingfisher Cup when they visit Ryman's Surrey Championship side Spencer at Earlsfield tomorrow sun

● South Wilts have already teed up a juicy home tie with Bridgwater at Bemerton next Sunday (July 8), while Havant's incentive to win at Earlsfield, near Wimbleton, is an equally attractive pairing with Teddington, the Middlesex Premier League leaders.

FLOODLIT FINAL DATE SWITCH

THE Premier League is poised to delay its flood-light Southern Electric twenty20 Cup final at the Ageas Bowl.

The prestige final is due to be played on July 19, but the competition has fallen so far behind schedule it will be impossible to meet that date.

The SEPL is discussing alternative dates with Hampshire Cricket – but an early August midweek evening looks probable, writes MIKE VIMPANY.

The semi-finals were due to have been played tomorrow, but the Electric Cup as yet to even reach its quarter-final stage.

Nine clubs are left in the competition, with Liphook & Ripsley and Alton still to resolve their second round tie!

They are due to meet at Ripsley Park tomorrow (Sunday, 4pm), for the right to host Sarisbury Athletic in the quarters.

Bad weather and the success of four SPL clubs nationally has thrown the t20 competition into a near chaotic state.

Four ties were scheduled to

have been played last Sunday, but all were washed out when grounds were flooded by heavy overnight rain.

Bournemouth and Havant did, at least, play their outstanding second round ties in midweek and will now meet in the quarter-finals.

Openers Mark House (54) and Alex Butler (41) paved the way to Bournemouth scoring 164-3 (Jonny Coombs 27) against Paultons at Whitemoor Lane.

Paultons, who had beaten much fancied South Wilts in a first round bowl-out, made 65-9 (Scott Dawes 24) in reply.

Cup holders Havant trimmed Old Tauntonians & Romsey by eight wickets after dismissing their hosts for 93.

Nick DeStefano (35) and Keith Trodd (27) top scored for OTs, who crashed from 60-1 to 93 all out against Ben Walker (3-13) and Steve Matthews (3-22).

Peter Hopson (38), Richard Hindley (30) and Scott Mills (25) completed the formalities.

Totton & Eling host the Hampshire Academy in the first of the delayed t20 quar-

ter-finals at the Linden Oval, Southern Gardens, tomorrow (Sunday, 4pm).

It's a mouth-watering tie, with the Academy youngsters eager to avenge the Premier Division defeat they suffered against the Eels a fortnight ago.

Totton & Eling: D Taylor, S Walker, A Mohod, Wahid, G Marshall, J Metcalfe, N Bungay, L Mooney, D Augustus, T Beresford, J Taylor, P Cooper.

Academy: A Rouse, J Haggat, J Sheppard, L McManus, J George, R Gibson, O Green, M King, T Barber, J Halson, M Porter.

● The other three quarter-final ties are pencilled in for Sunday week, July 8, viz – Bashley (Rydal) v Lympstone, Bournemouth v Havant, Liphook & Ripsley or Alton v Sarisbury Athletic.

Tomorrow's fixtures

ECB Kingfisher Cup Group Final Spencer v Havant (Earlsfield, 1pm)

Southern Electric t20 Cup

Round 2: Liphook & Ripsley v Alton (Ripsley Park, 4pm)

Round 3: Totton & Eling v

Hampshire Academy (Linden Oval, 4pm)

Yorkshire Tea Village Cup

Paultons v Wimbleton (Whitemoor Lane, Ower, 1pm)

Rowledge v Sibton Park (Rowledge Rec, 2pm)

ECB Under-15 County 50-over Cup

Hampshire v Somerset (Bashley, 2pm)

PAULTONS hit the Lord's trail for real when they host Somerset & Avon winners Wimbleton, from Bridgwater, in the opening national round of the Yorkshire Tea Village Cup at Whitemoor Lane tomorrow (Sunday), 1pm.

They won the Hampshire county title at Easton & Martyr Worthy a fortnight ago and now chase a place in the last 16 of the competition.

Paultons: Magee, Ennew, Robinson, Collins, Brown, Weaver, Ray, Richman, Lamb, Weaver, Morell, Denney, Dunn.

Rowledge face potentially tougher opposition when Kent League Division 1 leaders Sibton Park, from Folkestone, visit the recreation ground.

GOT A CRICKET STORY? EMAIL echosport@daiyecho.co.uk

Local Cricket Spotlight

RYDE are gearing themselves up to become the second Isle of Wight club, alongside Ventnor, to play in the Southern Electric Premier League.

Four games in, all of which they have won, may be a little premature for promotion talk in the Ryde dressing room, writes **MIKE VIMPANY**.

But the rain ravaged season reaches its midway point today and Ryde are in the thick of it at the top of the Hampshire League.

"We are trying not to get ahead of ourselves, but this is the best start we've made to a County 1 season and we're making sure we tick all the Premier League boxes should we get a chance of going up," says chairman Dave Tolfrey.

Ryde, four points behind the other unbeaten club, Portsmouth & Southsea, going into today's home match with Fareham & Crofton, await a ground inspection from the Hampshire Cricket Board's accreditation team.

But they are quietly confident their Hardings Shute complex, on the southern outskirts of the town, will get the nod.

The ground, pictured right, looked a picture when the Island hosted the MCC there last season.

"We've got a very decent pavilion, with separate umpire changing facilities and have just obtained planning approval to build a new ground equipment shed, which is our primary Autumn project," Tolfrey added.

"We are also looking to complete the wire mesh fencing around the boundary to keep the rabbits out, and as far as junior cricket is concerned, our school links are all in place, as are our age group teams, and coaching organised, as required."

But Ryde know that, if their promotion goal is to be achieved, they must first get a top three finish in County 1 – and that will mean winning the bulk of the ten or so matches they are likely to play.

"It's a sad thought that we are halfway through the programme already, when it seems we've barely got going and there's only eight games left," sighed Tolfrey's son Lawrence, who skipper Ryde.

Tolfrey hit a half-century and, backed up by a breezy 44 from John Zaccardi, saw Ryde to 197 against Midhurst in the delightful surrounds of Cowdray Park.

Midhurst crumbled to 116-8 before finishing on 167, leaving Ryde 30-run winners.

"What a delightful place Cowdray Park is to play, especially when the polo is on."

"Sumaya narrowly beat La Bamba de Areco 17-16 in the Veuve Clicquot Gold Cup," smiled Tolfrey, who didn't manage to get a ticket and had to watch from the cricket boundary.

Just ahead of Ryde in the log are **Portsmouth & Southsea**, who probably put paid to **Locks Heath's** prospects of featuring in the top three with a nine-wicket win at St James's Park.

Locks Heath finished runners-up to Gosport Borough last season but lie in mid-table after losing three of their six matches so far.

Tight new-ball bowling by Dave Tiller – who began with four suc-



RYDE LINE-UP: Standing (left-right): Dale Hackett, Cameron Mitchell, Lawrence Tolfrey, Tom Morgan, Julian Jayerah. Front: Toby Jackson, Andy Day, Jamie Icke, Jamie Cutting, Blair Grainger, John Zaccardi. Main picture: the Ryde ground.



Ticket to Ryde **for SEPL clubs?**

sive maidens – and Alex Fletcher, tied Locks Heath down from the outset and it was left to Mike Boyd (54) to hold the visitors' innings together. Once Boyd fell to spinner Harsh Patel, Locks Heath's innings gently subsided, with Fletcher and Tiller wrapping up the tail.

South African Ash Wallace, with 73 not out, and teenager Jack Davies got P & S off to a flier with 40 runs off the opening five overs.

Davies perished, but Matt Benfield made an unbeaten 46 to see P & S home by nine wickets with 23 overs to spare.

Relegated from SPL3 last season, **Bashley (Rydal)** are geared up for a promotion push, though the outcome of today's visit to fourth-placed Portchester will be key to their prospects of

a Premier return.

Jamie Gawler (4-48) was the pick of a tidy Bashley bowling attack which pegged **Hook & Newnham Basics II** to 175-9 (Matt McNally 50).

Bashley fielded well too and, despite losing two early wickets, were always likely winners, with Callum Maher following up his previous week's century against Bedhampton, with an unbeaten 81.

Gawler (29) chipped in as Bashley cruised home with three overs to spare.

"Callum batted well, but we dropped him on 30 and proceeded to give away far too many extras, 36 in all," said Hook skipper Ben Allnut.

Talking of extras, **St Cross Symondians III** are improving – only 42 sundries being conceded

against **Bedhampton**, a slightly better statistic than the half-century giveaways

of the previous two weeks.

It's the St Cross new ball bowlers who give skipper Tom Postle the most grief – wayward bowling contributing heavily as Bedhampton cruised to 101-2 (Dave McFawn 45) at the halfway point.

Rob Nevin (3-39) and Matt Howarth (2-42) broke through for St Cross, but a forceful 54 not out by Mike Austin took Bedhampton to 231-9.

The smaller of the two pitches at the Green Jackets Ground is tailor-made for batsmen and both Nevin (53) and Grant Edgar (55) cashed in with boundary-strewn half-centuries.

St Cross had a three-wicket wobble before Graham Barrett blasted 79 not out off 60 balls to secure a four-wicket win for the fifth-placed Winchester club.

"A fifth win in six – but all credit to the groundsmen for producing such a good track given all the rain we had in the days leading up to the game," said Postle.

Pre-season favourites Waterloo-

ville lurk in sixth spot after shooting Purbrook out for 85 and winning by five wickets.

"The pitch wasn't that easy, but we gifted them eight wickets through bad batting," moaned Purbrook skipper Sean Figgins.

Fareham & Crofton, without only one previous win, did well to nail **Idlers** by four wickets, especially with half the normal side unavailable.

Luke Gould chose the Isle of Wight Festival in preference to leading the side and Australian Brent Jarvis-Spinks is out for the rest of the season with a broken hand.

But stand-in skipper Bob Marchant led from the front with a 5-32 return as Fareham kept Idlers down to 212-9 (George Shepherd 80) before an unbeaten century by Ed White (103) saw the hosts home.

White and Richard Webb (25) provided Fareham with the sound start they needed, but the next four batsmen managed only four runs between them – three falling to Ben Upton (3-45) – before the target was reached.

Ellingham celebrated their first CD1 win after flogging the **Lymington** attack all over their Picket Post ground.

Lymington toiled in the field as Ellingham ran up a club record 320-8, with 56 runs coming off the last three overs!

Openers Matt Vail (58) and Jamie McPherson (42) gave Ellingham a 74-run start before Stuart Layton hit 55.

John Childs (38) chipped in before Aaron Barker lashed a lively 67 not out.

Lymington tossed down 53 extras before posting 229-9 in reply, Cantel schoolteacher Joel Sutherland making an unbeaten 103.



RUN MACHINE: Callum Maher, right scored an unbeaten 81 for Bashley (Rydal).

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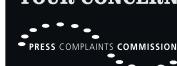
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20 Aug : Rhyl, Snowdonia & Chester 5 day	£225
20 Aug : Warners Lakeside Self Drive 5 day	£195
20 Aug : Warners Lakeside Self Drive 5 day	£252
23 Aug : Downton Abbey & Cotswolds 4 day	£239
24 Aug : Paris City Break 4 day.....	£242
24 Aug : Romantic Rhine Cruise 9 day.....	£912
24 Aug : Austria Summer Special 9 day.....	£479
25 Aug : Bank Holiday 3 day Mystery Tour	£139
26 Aug : Essex Coast & Country 5 day.....	£309
26 Aug : Cotswolds & Nostalgic Steam 5 day	£319
26 Aug : Cotswolds & Wye Valley 5 day	£334
27 Aug : Yorkshire Railway Journeys 5 day	£364
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29 Aug : Great Highland Railways 6 day	£509
31 Aug : Austria - 3 Countries Experience 10 day	£699
01 Sep : Morecambe & The Lakes 8 day.....	£499
01 Sep : Lake Garda & Venice 9 day	£649
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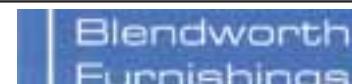


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6.20 BRITISH STALLION STUDS SUPPORTING BRITISH RACING E.B.F. MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS 5). £6,000 added 2YO only 5f Penalty Value £4,090.

1 446 DUTCH MASTERPIECE G L Moore 9 3 G Baker 6
2 JUST CHARLIE H Candy 9 3 D O'Neill 7
3 MAN IN THE ARENA Dr J Scargill 9 3 John Fahy 1
4 MYSTICAL MAN J Tate 9 3 C Catlin 5
5 NORMAL EQUILIBRIUM R Varian 9 3 H Bentley (3) 2
6 ROYAL ASPIRATION (IRE) (12) W Haggas 9 3 Kirsty Milczarek 4
7 WHATWEHAVEWHOLED D Donovan 9 3 DOUBTFUL 8

BETTING: 5-4 Royal Aspiration, 5-2 Normal Equilibrium, 7-1 Just Charlie, Jimmy Elder, 10-1 Mystical Man, 20-1 Dutch Masterpiece, 33-1 Man In The Arena.

6.50 TFL ONLINE 'JABBA THE TRAINER' HANDICAP (CLASS 5). £4,500 added 3YO PLUS 5f Penalty Value £3,068.

1 050101 BILLY RED (18) (CD) R Jenkins 8 9 12 D Sweeney 3
2 00/0520 JAMEELA GIRL (52) (D) R Cowell 4 9 11 H Bentley (3) 5
3 405400 INTERCEPT (IRE) (10) J Gosden 4 9 10 R Havlin 8
4 -03126 CLEAR PRAISE (USA) (18) (CD) S Dow 5 9 10 S Sanders 12
5 6-1152 HOWYADOINGNOTSOBAD (IRE) (35) (D) Miss K George 4 9 10 D Kenny (5) 4

6 510-53 BEST BE CAREFUL (IRE) (35) (CD) M Usher 4 9 8 Rachael Kneller (5) 6

7 222060 HINTON ADMIRAL (21) (CD) C Dore 8 9 7 Kirsty Milczarek 13
8 20-113 JIMMY RYAN (IRE) (120) (CD) T McCarthy 11 9 6 P Guillenbert 2
9 1-5034 LADY GIBRALTAR (24) (C) A Jarvis 3 9 2 Michael J M Murphy (7) 7
10 0-0122 MARY'S PET (19) (CB) L Carter 5 8 13 A Quinn 1
11 005660 DREAMS OF GLORY (14) (D) C Dwyer 4 8 10 S Potts 3 (10)
12 -30956 MAWJOODAH (12) B Ellison 4 8 C Catlin 14
13 0-00404 MISS POLLY PLUM (7) (CD) C Dwyer 5 8 7 A Atzeni 11
14 34-620 MONTY FAY (IRE) (15) D Haydn Jones 3 8 1 J McDonald 9

BETTING: 5-1 Howyadoingnotsobad, 11-2 Jimmy Ryan, 6-1 Best Be Careful, 13-2 Mary's Pet, 7-1 Billy Red, 12-1 Mawjoodah, Miss Polly Plum, Intercept, 14-1 others.

7.25 BRITISH ARMED FORCES DAY 2012 FILLIES' HANDICAP (CLASS 5). £4,500 added 3YO only 7f Penalty Value £3,068.

1 102-60 TOFFEE TART (62) J Hills 9 7 S Sanders 13
2 -16160 BOUDOIR (IRE) (17) (CD) R Hannon 9 5W Twiston-Davies (7) 6
3 223541 TENBREIDGE (23) (CD) D Haydn Jones 9 4 A Atzeni 3
4 202064 ALKADI (IRE) (12) (CD) M Johnston 9 4 M Lane 10
5 100-00 ZINGANA (23) (D) Eve J-Houghton 9 4 D Sweeney 9
6 506- MORE THAN WORDS (IRE) (16) R Hannon 9 3 R Hughes 8

SALISBURY

Going Good

2.05 WILTSHIRE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION E.B.F. BLAGRAVE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS 4). £6,800 added 2YO only 7f Penalty Value £4,399.

1 03 FREEPORT (25) B Meehan 9 3 D Holland 2
2 HERE COMES WHEN (IRE) A Balding 9 3 J P Spencer 4
3 2 ONE WORD MORE (IRE) (17) C Dore 9 3 R Winston 7
4 3 REEF REFRACTION (IRE) (20) R Hannon 9 3 D O'Neill 1
5 0 SECRET BEAUTY (20) G Baker 9 3 J Doyle 3
6 3 SEJALAAT (IRE) (22) J Dunlop 9 3 P Hanagan 5
7 STIFF UPPER LIP (IRE) R Hannon 9 3 J Crowley 8
8 STOCKHOLM B Millman 9 3 J Millman 6

BETTING: 2-1 One Word More, 4-1 Sejalat, 5-1 Red Refraction, 6-1 Freeport, 7-1 Stiff Upper Lip, 8-1 Here Comes When, 20-1 Stockholm, 25-1 Secret Beau.

2.35 K J PIKE & SONS LTD HANDICAP (CLASS 5). £4,500 added 4YO PLUS 1m 2f Penalty Value £2,911.

1 0-0044 ODIN (IRE) (8) D Elsworth 9 0 M Halford 3
2 0-4302 MIDS MOMENT (24) (BF) W Muir 4 9 7 G Baker 8
3 022431 BENNELONG (19) (D) R Rowe 6 9 7 A Quinn 4
4 00400- TENESSEWE (27) (D) J Osborne 5 9 7 D Sweeney 9
5 6334/1 HAWRIDGE SONG (4) B Millman 4 9 5 J Millman 10
6 123/1 CYRIL THE SQUIRREL (513) (D) Miss K George 8 4 T McLaughlin 6

7 00-P45 SOUTH CAPE (23) G L Moore 9 9 2 J Doyle 2
8 630410 SHIRATAKI (IRE) (13) (D) P Hatt 9 0 Luke Morris 13
9 -02303 HURAKAN (IRE) (11) R J Price 6 8 13 D Muscatt (7) 1
10 541450 THUNDERING HOME (44) N Mitchell 5 8 1 D Kenny (5) 11
11 400-32 CIRCLE OF ANGELS (13) Williams 4 8 10 J P Spencer 7
12 42D000 BEGGERS BELIEF (26) D E Wheeler 4 8 6 P Hanagan 12
13 540606 ARCTIC MIRAGE (8) M Blanchard 4 8 3 R Powell (3) 5

BETTING: 7-2 Bnnellong, 5-1 Circle of Angels, 6-1 Cyril The Squirrel, 7-1 Midas Moment, 8-1 Hurakan, 10-1 Odin, South Cape, 12-1 Shirataki, 14-1 others.

3.05 K J PIKE & SONS LTD SENIORS' SPRINT HANDICAP (CLASS 4). £8,000 added 6YO PLUS 5f Penalty Value £5,175.

1 601-00 BERTOLIVER (37) (D) S C Williams 8 9 7 J Doyle 4
2 000200 INVINCIBLE LAD (IRE) (289) (D) J Bradley 8 9 5 P Spencer 8
3 5625-3 OSIRIS WAY (40) (CD) P Charnings 10 9 4 G Baker 6
4 011220 EFISTORM (15) J Tate 11 9 3 Hayley Turner 9
5 6-3002 WOODEN KING (IRE) (8) (D) M Saunders 7 9 11 McLaughlin 11
6 614301 TRIPLE DREAM (36) (CD) J Bradley 7 9 11 Luke Morris 3

8 42-300 SYMPHONY TIME (IRE) (22) B Meehan 9 2 M Barzalona 1
9 05224- GIFTED DANCER (264) (BF) H Candy 9 2 D O'Neill 7
10 0-3640 FINE PAINTING (IRE) (23) G L Moore 9 0 T Qually 11
11 3-3500 SERENE OASIS (IRE) (12) (D) M Channon 8 12 M Davies 2
12 0-0343 LITTLE RAINBOW (26) C Cox 8 8 John Fahy 4
13 0-0303 SANGRAIL (16) W Muir 8 8 M Dwyer 12

BETTING: 4-1 Gifted Dancer, 5-1 Little Rainbow, 7-1 Alkadi, 8-1 Miss Cap Estel, Tenbridge, More Than Words, 10-1 Symphony Time, 12-1 Boudoir, 14-1 others.

8.00 SURREY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION SELLING STAKES (AWT) (CLASS 6). £3,200 added 3YO PLUS 1m 4f Penalty Value £2,181.

1 5-1050 DEW REWARD (IRE) (5) (CD) W G Turner 4 9 13A Atzeni 8
2 102564 KISS A PRINCE (17) (CD) D Ivory 6 9 13 R Hughes 13
3 005030 ASHMOLEAN (IRE) (J681) Miss Z Davison 9 9 8 1 Goldstein 5
4 52445- BEGGAR'S OPERA (IRE) (J214) (CD) Jim Best 5 9 8M Batchelor 9
5 50-600 DADDY (7) T Clement 4 9 8 G Baker 12
6 0240- LOCUM (42) M Tompkins 7 9 8 D Holland 7
7 300231 ONEIRIC (23) (CD) B Johnson 4 9 8 I Burns (7) 1
8 00-040 SHOK E LAD (26) A Jarvis 3 8 8 Michael J M Murphy (7) 3

BETTING: 4-2 Seven Veils, 5-1 Oneiric, 5-1 Beggar's Opera, 8-1 Locum, Always Ends Well, 10-1 Dew Reward, 20-1 Shek O Lad, Soldier Spy, 25-1 others.

8.30 POPPY SHOP - POPPYSHOP.ORG.UK HANDICAP (AWT) (CLASS 6). £2,300 added 3YO only 1m 4f Penalty Value £2,181.

1 050-22 SEVEN VEILS (IRE) (12) (BF) Sir M Prescott 9 7 C Catlin 5
2 44-001 AUTARCH (USA) (30) Miss A Perrett 9 7 M Dwyer 2
3 0-4411 BRIDGEHAMPTON (40) (D) M Bell 9 7 R Hughes 7
4 0-0120 DARING DAMSEL (IRE) (39) C Pole 9 7 D Hanohoe 3
5 660161 MOMENT IN THE SUN (32) (D) C Flood 9 7 M Barzalona 9
6 0004 CAPITOL GAIN (IRE) (12) B Meehan 9 2 T Qually 1
7 00-516 MELODRAMO (IRE) (16) D Lanigan 9 2 D O'Neill 4
8 5-5243 FLEUR DE LA VIE (IRE) (16) (BF) B Eckett 9 2H Bentley (3) 11
9 052454 DALMO (16) G L Moore 9 2 G Baker 12
10 23-241 ASTROSCARLET (23) (CD) M Tompkins 9 0 D Holland 14
11 606 SCARLETT FEVER (18) M Tregoning 8 13 Katalia Scallan (7) 6
12 0-004 RANO PAN (USA) (12) B Ellison 8 8 A Atzeni 13
13 440-0 BEACON LADY (23) W Knight 8 4 M Lane 10
14 40400 OSSIE'S DANCER (17) R Cossell 8 2 R Da Silva (3) 8

BETTING: 7-2 Bridgehampton, 4-1 Seven Veils, 7-1 Fleur De La Vie, 8-1 Astroscarlet, Autarch, 10-1 Moment In The Sun, Capitol Gain, 14-1 Melodrama, Dalmo, 16-1 others.

9.00 LINGFIELD MARRIOTT HOTEL & COUNTRY CLUB MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (AWT) (CLASS 6). £3,200 added 3 to 4YO 1m 2f Penalty Value £2,181.

1 363540 COMEDY HOUSE (J27) M Madgwick 4 10 0 J Goldstein 3
2 300 BUMIEHAB LIBERTY (14) Miss Z Davison 4 10 J John Fahy 6
3 00 BONBON BONNIE (23) P McEntee 4 9 9 D Brock (7) 1
4 0 ANY GIVEN DREAM (IRE) (39) D M Simcock 3 9 2 M Lane 4
5 22- BOLD CUFFS (191) (BF) Sir M Prescott 3 9 2 C Catlin 12
6 60-600 CHATER GARDEN (IRE) (23) A Jarvis 8 1 9 Michael J M Murphy (7) 5

7 06-34 EXNING HALT (22) J Fanshawe 3 9 2 G Baker 11
8 00-0541 ALTARIA Mrs A Perrett 3 8 11 T Qually 8
9 3 CHRISTLINGE (38) W Haggas 3 8 11 R Hughes 7
10 62 ELEGANT OPHELIA (17) D Ivory 3 8 11 D Holland 2
11 32-00 FLAMBOROUGH BREEZE (17) E Vaughan 3 8 11H Bentley (3) 10
12 0-0 TIME FOR A TIGER (264) H Candy 3 8 11 D O'Neill 9

BETTING: 11-8 Bold Cuffs, 2-1 Christlinge, 7-1 Elegant Ophelia, 8-1 Exning, 20-1 Time For A Tiger, 25-1 Any Given Dream, Flamborough Breeze, Altaria, Comedy House, 33-1 others.

Saturday night runners

9.00 SOLDIER SPY (14) M Usher 3 8 8 R Havlin 6

10 002000 ALWAYS ENDS WELL (IRE) (10) M Johnston 3 8 3 M Lane 2 N Alison (5) 4

11 0-0 MURMUR (IRE) (296) P Fitzsimons 3 8 3 J McDonald 10

12 0-0 YOU GOT THE LOVE (18) J Gask 3 8 3 R Da Silva (3) 11

BETTING: 5-2 Kiss A Prince, 3-1 Oneiric, 5-1 Beggar's Opera, 8-1 Locum, Always Ends Well, 10-1 Dew Reward, 20-1 Shek O Lad, Soldier Spy, 25-1 others.

8.30 POPPY SHOP - POPPYSHOP.ORG.UK HANDICAP (AWT) (CLASS 6). £2,300 added 3YO only 1m 4f Penalty Value £2,181.

1 050-22 SEVEN VEILS (IRE) (12) (BF) Sir M Prescott 9 7 C Catlin 5

2 44-001 AUTARCH (USA) (30) Miss A Perrett 9 7 M Dwyer 2

3 0-4411 BRIDGEHAMPTON (40) (D) M Bell 9 7 R Hughes 7

4 0-0120 DARING DAMSEL (IRE) (39) C Pole 9 7 D Hanohoe 3

5 660161 MOMENT IN THE SUN (32) (D) C Flood 9 7 M Barzalona 9

6 0004 CAPITOL GAIN (IRE) (12) B Meehan 9 2 T Qually 1

7 00-516 MELODRAMO (IRE) (16) D Lanigan 9 2 D O'Neill 4

8 5-5243 FLEUR DE LA VIE (IRE) (16) (BF) B Eckett 9 2H Bentley (3) 11

9 052454 DALMO (16) G L Moore 9 2 G Baker 12

10 23-241 ASTROSCARLET (23) (CD) M Tompkins 9 0 D Holland 14

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13 440-0 BEACON LADY (23) W Knight 8 4 M Lane 10

14 40400 OSSIE'S DANCER (17) R Cossell 8 2 R Da Silva (3) 8

BETTING: 7-2 Bridgehampton, 4-1 Seven Veils, 7-1 Fleur De La Vie, 8-1 Astroscarlet, Autarch, 10-1 Moment In The Sun, Capitol Gain, 14-1 Melodrama, Dalmo, 16-1 others.

9.00 LINGFIELD MARRIOTT HOTEL & COUNTRY CLUB MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (AWT) (CLASS 6). £3,200 added 3 to 4YO 1m 2f Penalty Value £2,181.

1 363540 COMEDY HOUSE (J27) M Madgwick 4 10 0 J Goldstein 3

2 300 BUMIEHAB LIBERTY (14) Miss Z Davison 4 10 J John Fahy 6

3 00 BONBON BONNIE (23) P McEntee 4 9 9 D Brock (7) 1

4 0 ANY GIVEN DREAM (IRE) (39) D M Simcock 3 9 2 M Lane 4

5 22- BOLD CUFFS (191) (BF) Sir M Prescott 3 9 2 C Catlin 12

6 60-600 CHATER GARDEN (IRE) (23) A Jarvis 8 1 9 Michael J M Murphy (7) 5

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8 00-0541 ALTARIA Mrs A Perrett 3 8 11 T Qually 8

9 3 CHRISTLINGE (38) W Haggas 3 8 11 R Hughes 7

10 62 ELEGANT OPHELIA (17) D Ivory 3 8 11 D Holland 2

11 32-00 FLAMBOROUGH BREEZE (17) E Vaughan 3 8 11H Bentley (3) 10

12 0-0 TIME FOR A TIGER (264) H Candy 3 8 11 D O'Neill 9

BETTING: 11-8 Bold Cuffs, 2-1 Christlinge, 7-1 Elegant Ophelia, 8-1 Exning, 20-1 Phantom Ranch, 33-1 Carmen's Concerto, 50-1 Runway Girl, 66-1 Mabel's Song.

5.50 CGA RACING EXCELLENCE APPRENTICE HANDICAP (WHIPS SHALL BE CARRIED BUT NOT USED) (CLASS 6). £3,200 added 3YO only 1m Penalty Value £2,911.

1 066-10 CHEMISTRY MASTER (17) J Gask 4 9 11 R Winston 8

2 0-0 CHECKPOINT (15) Sir H Cecil 3 9 0 J Mongan 4

3 4-3460 DYNAMIC (17) R Hannon 3 9 0 J Mongan 4

4 0-0 GOSPEL CHOIR (324) Sir M Stoute 3 9 0 R Mullen 2

5 0-0 PHANTOM RANCH (13) H Morrison 3 9 0 D Holland 5

6 0-0 ZAMDY MAN (15) Miss V Williams 3 9 0 9

7 00 CARMEN'S CONCERTO (24) A Balding 3 8 9 3

8 0-0 MABEL'S SONG (265) H Candy 3 8 9 D O'Neill 1

9 00 RUNWAY GIRL (IRE) (11) R Charlton 3 8 9 J Doyle 6

BETTING: 5-6 Gospel Choir, 5-1 Dynastic, 13-2 Zamdy Man, Checkpoint, 50-1 Chemistry Master, 20-1 Phantom Ranch, 33-1 Carmen's Concerto, 50-1 Runway Girl, 66-1 Mabel's Song.

4.15 K J PIKE & SONS LTD AUCTION STAKES (CONDITIONS RACE) (CLASS 3). £1,500 added 2YO only 6f Penalty Value £7,439.

1 14 ASK THE GURU (29) (C) R Beckett 8 11 J Crowley 3

2 32 PINARIUS (IRE) B Meehan 8 6 6 P Hanagan 2

3 32 THE BLACK JACOBIN (29) J S Moore 8 3 Luke Morris 5

4 2413 ISHI HONEST (16) M Usher 7 13 1

5 2312 CRUCK REALTA (26) C M Channon 7 12 Cathy Gannon 4

BETTING: 8-11 Cruck Realta, 9-2 The Black Jacobin, 5-1 Ask The Guru, 8-1 Ishi Honest, 14-1 Pinarius.

4.15 K J PIKE & SONS LTD AUCTION STAKES (CONDITIONS RACE) (CLASS 3). £1,500 added 2YO only 6f Penalty Value £7,439.

1 14 ASK THE GURU (29) (C) R Beckett 8 11 J Crowley 3

2 00 PINARIUS (IRE) B Meehan 8 6 6 P Hanagan 2

3 32 THE BLACK JACOBIN (29) J S Moore 8 3 Luke Morris 5

4 2413 ISHI HONEST (16) M Usher 7 13 1

5 2312 CRUCK REALTA (26) C M Channon 7 12 Cathy Gannon 4

BETTING: 8-11 Cruck Realta, 9-2 The Black Jacobin, 5-1 Ask The Guru, 8-1 Ishi Honest, 14-1 Pinarius.

4.50 GOLDRING SECURITY SERVICES MA